FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 FEBRUARY 1985

Lebanon

IDF Operations — The IDF killed two "terrorists" and captured another during searches in the village of Al-Bazuriyah, Jerusalem radio reported. The Israelis interrogated local residents and demolished buildings in the village, the radio said, and IDF sources viewed the operation as part of a new "iron fist" policy against those suspected of attacks. The latest operations by the IDF and ASL followed Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's decision to adopt firmer measures including summary arrests and the demolition of houses of terrorists or suspects, according to *MA'ARIV*. The Israelis are also considering a policy of deportations and other punitive measures, the paper added.

French Observers — French observers evacuated their post in Al-Shuwayfat following the recent killing of a French officer, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Syria, Libya Visits — A Lebanese parliamentary delegation was received by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, while PSP leader Walid Jumblatt held talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Libya, according to Damascus and Tripoli radios.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres arrived in Bucharest on an official visit at the invitation of the Romanian president, AGERPRES announced. Earlier, following talks with Italian leaders, Peres told a press conference in Rome that he is "ready to go to Amman" and he reiterated Israel's invitation to King Husayn to come to Jerusalem and "announce whatever he has in his mind," according to AFP. Meanwhile, the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE published Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's recent speech to the World Council of Synagogues in which he said there is "no chance whatsoever" that Israel will even consider relinquishing control over Judaea and Samaria, adding that the withdrawal from Lebanon cannot be taken as a precedent for a return to the borders of 1967 with Jordan. Shamir also expressed "profound regret" that Egypt has behaved as though the peace treaty was only an instrument to regain the Sinai, after which it has disengaged from any further efforts to advance the peace process. He accused the Egyptians of exaggerating the Taba question out of all proportion, and voiced concern over "hostile propaganda" in the Egyptian press.

Algeria

Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi discussed the international situation and regional issues with Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski, who is on a 3-day visit to Algeria, Algiers radio reported.

Iran

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Ansari-Kermani, in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio, said that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni is "perfectly healthy" and has cut back on his official activities because he wants officials to become "intellectually self-reliant" and creative in carrying out their duties.

Afghanistan

A security forces spokesman in Balkh Province announced that two leaders of the Jami'at Islami group have been killed in the last month as a result of successful operations, Kabul radio reported.

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Abu Nidal Threatens To 'Execute' King Husayn
AU211220 Paris AFP in English 1139 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Paris, Feb 21 (AFP) — Palestinian extremist Abu Nidal, who was said to have died last October, is very much alive and is planning to "execute" King Husayn of Jordan, he said in an interview with a French official this month.

Abu Nidal, alias Sabri Khalil al-Banna [as received], talked for a total of eight hours on February 6 and 7 at a rendez-vous in the Syrian-controlled Al-Biqa' plain of Lebanon with Lucien Bitterlin, a member of the Franco-Arab Solidarity Association, Mr. Bitterlin has disclosed.

It is only the second newspaper interview ever granted by Abu Nidal who is the sworn enemy of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasir 'Arafat and considered, along with "Carlos", one of the main brains behind international terrorism over the past decade.

Mr. Bitterlin told AFP that Abu Nidal, whome he met once in 1978 in Baghdad, appeared to be in perfect health.

On November 6 the independent British television network Channel Four reported that Abu Nidal had died of heart failure in the Iraqi capital around October 20.

The report was supported by sources close to his family, but immediately denied by Abu Nidal's Fatah Revolutionary Council (Fatah-RC) — a PLO breakaway faction.

Abu Nidal said rumours of his death had been put about by "Iraqi-Jordanian agents in collusion with Yasir 'Arafat".

A bitter hardliner, Abu Nidal broke with Mr. 'Arafat in 1973, in 1974 he was sentenced to death by a PLO council for "abuse of power and misuse of funds".

The full text of the interview will be published tomorrow in Mr. Bitterlin's monthly magazine *FRANCE PAYS ARABES*.

Abu Nidal, who said he had not informed Syrian officials of his meeting with Mr. Bitterlin, said his group wanted the "transformation of Jordan" and had decided to execute King Husayn.

Adding that South Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was another possible target for assassination, Abu Nidal said his renegade group planned to "sentence to death all who have envisaged negotiating with the Zionist state...whether they be Palestinians or Arabs". He said the Fatah-RC had already "executed" scores of people on these grounds.

On Jordan, he said "the territory east of the Jordan River belongs to Palestine and Palestine belongs to Syria socially, geographically and politically".

He claimed responsibility for "most of the operations carried out in Jordan" over recent months and said his organisation was resolved to kill the king "even though several attempts in the past have failed".

Abu Nidal warned that American interests would be a prime target for action this year. "We are planning operations against the Americans and all the billions of dollars given to their forces will not be enough to protect them," he said. "You will see the proof of our claims during the next few months."

However he told Mr. Bitterlin that carrying out attacks abroad were not a main aim of his gorup.

Asked about links with terrorist organizations such as Italy's Red Brigades, or with the mysterious "Carlos", alias of Vladimir Ilich Ramirez, wanted by police across the world, Abu Nidal said "we are in contact with all revolutionary forces around the world, but we are not responsible for their actions.

Abu Nidal said that most targets his group had hit outside Palestine were "linked withe the Mossad (the Israeli secret services)", adding that his strategy remained geared to "the total destruction of the Zionist entity by a people's war" and the establishment of a "democratic and popular regime under which Palestine would exist as a country".

He said the Fatah-RC was inspired by successful Marxist experiments particularly by revolutionary leaders such as Ho Chi Minh, Mao Zedong and Che Guevara but "remained nationalist in character".

On the internal structure of the Fatah-RC , he said the "command" was "divided into two parts one secret, the other public."

He said that he was deputy to a secretary-general "whose name may be revealed shortly".

Abu Nidal Told Mr. Bitterlin that he hoped the balance between East and West would "remain in favour of the Soviet Union" and added: "We hope the Soviet Union will step up its assistance to us".

Abu Nidal was born 45 years ago in Nablus, on the West Bank. By his account, he worked for a time as an electrician before beginning university studies which were interrupted by political events.

After breaking away from Fatah, he went into hiding in Baghdad and in 1980, went to Damascus playing on the rivalry between the two rival Ba'th parties. His "Black June" group claimed responsibility for several anti-Jewish attacks: an attack on a group of children in Antwerp in 1980 in which one person died, the blasting of a synagogue in Vienna in 1981 (two dead) and the attempted murder of the Israeli ambassador in London in 1981 (two dead). The group has also claimed the murders of PLO moderates such as 'Izz al-din Kalak in 1978 in Paris, Sa'id Hammami in 1978 in London, Na'im Khadr in 1981 in Brussels and 'Isam Sartawi in 1983 in Lisbon.

'Arafat Returns to Tunis From Bucharest
LD161426 Kuwait KUNA in English 1002 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, Feb 16 (KUNA) — Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Libration Organisation Yasir 'Arafat

returned here last night from Bucharest where he spent three days of talks with President Nicolae Ceausescu on the current scene in the Middle East.

At the end of their extensive deliberations on the stalemate in the region, 'Arafat and the Romanian president called for an international conference on the Middle East crisis sponsored by the United Nations and attended by all parties to the conflict, the Romanian news agency said.

Observors said 'Arafat briefed Ceausescu on the recent Jordanian-Palestinian understanding to launch a joint endeavor for peace in the region.

'Arafat Chairs Military Council Meeting

JN201813 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The Higher Military Council of the Palestinian revolution forces held a meeting in Tunis yesterday morning under Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. During the meeting, several important military issues were discussed and appropriate decisions were made regarding them.

Our radio correspondent has learned that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar informed the Military Council members of the meetings of PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee, as well as the political and military developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas. Our correspondent has also learned that it has been decided that the Higher Military Council will remain in open session to follow up on the possibilities of the situation in the occupied territories.

Fatah CC Approves Executive Committee Statement

LD201857 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A responsible source in the Fatah Central Committee stated that the Central Committee has approved the PLO Executive Committee statement.

French, PLO Prepare for 'Arafat-Dumas Meeting

GF202032 Doha QNA in Arabic 1930 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Paris, 20 Feb (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Paris has learned from well-informed French political sources that the French External Relations Ministry recently held diplomatic contacts with the PLO in order to prepare for the upcoming meeting between French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during the visit of the French minister to Tunis in late February.

PLO's Abu Hijallah Receives PRC Ambassador in Tunis

LD191807 Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, 19 Feb (TAP) — Abu Ja'far [Ihsan Abu Hijallah], director of the political department of the PLO in Tunis, received the Chinese ambassador to Tunis, Mr Xie Bangding, on Monday, the Palestinian agency WAFA announced. The talks permitted an examination of the situation in the Middle East and a review of relations between the Palestine Liberation Organization and People's China to be made.

The Chinese diplomat on this occasion reaffirmed his country's position of support for the Palestinian people's struggle to recover their legitimate national rights including return, self-determination, and the building of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, WAFA indicated.

Palestinians in Libya Reject Jordan-PLO Accord

LD192216 Tripoli JANA in English 1912 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 29, February 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The factions of the Palestinian revolution in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, in a statement rejected the Husayn-'Arafat agreement stressing that the overt articles represent a dangerous national catastrophe and a breach to the national Palestinian charter.

The Palestinian revolution's factions in Jamahiriyah added that this agreement means the breaching of the resolutions reached in the successive Palestinian National Councils, a setback for the acceptance of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, the recognition of the Zionist enemy and the abandonment of the liberation of the whole Palestinian national soil.

It confirmed that Husayn-'Arafat agreement comes as a crowning to a series of rings in the chains of imperialists' conspiracy and their agents on the cause of our Palestinian-Arab people. In fact the plot started at an early stage, just after the massacres of September 1970 with the emergence of the right-wing revisionist trend. Later, after leaving Beirut this trend materialised through the conspiracy of dispersing the forces, the agreement with the Zionists to put an end to the armed struggle, the laying down of the Palestinian gun and the making up of the Palestinian internal fight. On this line, the statement went on to say, came 'Arafat's visit to the oppressed Egyptian capital the aid of which is to end the isolation of the Egyptian regime, to spread around the treasures David Stable's accords [as received] in the Arab region and finally to facilitate the destruction of the PLO. Consequently, the treacherous Amman meeting was held, as the final step in paving the road for the present conspiracy agreement for liquidating the Palestinian cause.

In the conclusion of their statement, the Palestinian revolution's factions stressed the need to speed up efforts to cause the fall down of this devious approach and its symbols led by 'Arafat and his clique and finish the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy which aims at the elimination of the Palestinian revolution.

Arab Congress Condemns Jordanian-PLO Agreement

LD192127 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Feb (JANA) — The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress has sent a cable to Arab kings and

heads of state urging them to work for the abrogation of the agreement between King Husayn and 'Arafat concerning negotiations with the Zionist enemy and the recognition of UN Security Council Resolution No 242 which constitutes the gravest threat to the interests and rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

The Permanent Secretariat, whose headquarters are in the Jamahiriyah, said that it holds the Arab kings and heads of state historically responsible before the masses of the Arab nation. In its cable, it said that the adoption of a responsible stand at this stage when everything has been squandered should restore dignity to this nation which has lost respect for itself and thus lost the respect of others.

In its cable, the Permanent Secretariat said: We as an organization of nationalist people comprising the forces, parties, and organizations of the Arab people affirm our rejection and denunciation of the agreement that concerns only those signatories to it.

Briefs

Arab Loan to Morocco — Abu Dhabi, Feb, 20 (WAKH) — Morocco is to receive a 3.6 million Arab accounting dinars [AAD] ($10.4 million) loan from the Arab Monetary Fund [AMF] to offset its balance of payments. The loan will be repaid in a three-year period starting 18 months after the time of its being received. The loan brings to eight the number of loans received by Morocco from the AMF since 1979 with a total value of 56.35 million AAD. The loan agreement was signed by Sa'id Ghubash, chairman of the AMF, and 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Mashkuri, Moroccan ambassador to the UAE. [Text][*Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 20 Feb 85 GF*]

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Message From Saudi King Fahd

GF201216 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1138 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Manama, 20 Feb (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, received a message from His Majesty Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, dealing with the results of his majesty's visit to the United States and his talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The message was delivered by Ibrahim al-'Anqari, minister of municipal and rural affairs, during his meeting with the Bahraini amir in Manama today.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah; and Dr Ghazi 'Abd al-Rahman al-Qusaybi, Saudi ambassador to the State of Bahrain.

Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah praised his majesty's visit to the United States and expressed satisfaction over the results of this visit, which has a positive role in serving the Arab nation's causes.

The Saudi minister arrived in Manama earlier this day on a short visit to Bahrain as a part of his tour of the GCC states.

Amir Receives Jordanian Industry Minister

GF201030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 20 Feb (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received this morning Dr Jawad al-'Anani, Jordanian minister of industry and trade, and his accompanying delegation who are currently on a visit to Bahrain.

During the meeting, bilateral relations and the means to bolster them in industrial and commercial fields were discussed. Current Arab developments and issues of mutual interest were also discussed.

Foreign Minister Receives GCC's Bisharah

GF201034 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0915 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Manama, 20 Feb (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah met this morning with GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, who is currently visiting Bahrain.

The agenda of the 14th Ministerial Council of the GCC, expected to be held in Riyadh next month, was discussed during the meeting. Mr Bisharah arrived in Manama earlier today on a short visit to Bahrain.

Amir Receives 'Arafat Message on Agreement

GF161055 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah at 0930 today received in his office Salim al-Za'nun [Abu al-Adib], deputy PNC speaker and Fatah representative to Kuwait and the Arab Gulf countries, on the occasion of his visit to Bahrain.

The audience was attended by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, interior minister; Wafa Nabhan, director of the PLO office in Manama; and 'Abd al-Rahman al-Suwayr, deputy director of the PLO office.

After the meeting, Al-Za'nun made a statement to WAKH. He said that he conveyed a message to his highness the amir from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the outcome of the recent PNC meeting in Jordan. He said he briefed his highness the amir and his highness the prime minister on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and future joint moves in the Arab and international arena concerning the Palestinian issue. He said: During the meeting, I also learned Bahrain's point of view on the issues contained in the message, which we carefully considered because, regarding the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, we will not only express our views but will also hold consultations with our brother Arab leaders on this issue.

In conclusion, Al-Za'nun thanked the Bahraini amir, government, and people for their support for the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The Palestinian official arrived in Bahrain yesterday on a 3-day visit.

Foreign Minister Receives PNC Official

GF161346 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Manama, 16 Feb (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah received here today Mr Salim al-Za'nun [Abu al-Adib], deputy chairman of the PNC and Fatah representative in Kuwait and the Arabian Gulf, who is currently visiting Bahrain. During the meeting, current developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas and the other international questions were reviewed.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ on Hezbollah in Sidon

GF190820 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0710 GMT 19 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* has decried the suspicious campaign launched by the Hezbollah against the city of Sidon — almost liberated from Israeli occupation. The paper denounced the acts perpetrated by this group — which was carrying the pictures of Khomeyni — including

damaging stores, tearing apart Lebanese flags, calling for the establishment of a Khomeyni-style state in Lebanon, and intimidating the residents who were living the most wonderful days following the liberation of their city. The Lebanese people paid a dear cost in the struggle with the blood of their children.

The paper pointed out that what this group carried out is suspicious and cannot be executed by sincere Lebanese who are keen to ensure the completion of the liberation of their homeland from the Zionist occupation. The paper added: Israel is still desecrating part of the Lebanese territories and the Lebanese struggle still has a long way to go to corner the enemy and ultimately force it to leave Lebanon.

The paper stressed that such behavior — undertaken by the Hezbollah group — will likely pave the way for horrendous sectarian sedition in Lebanon. This is what Israel wants so that the Lebanese will stay preoccupied with fighting one another. Thus Israel will have the opportunity to cement its occupation of the regions still under its control. At this point all the sacrifices made by the Lebanese people will be wasted.

KUWAIT

Reportage on Results of National Assembly Election

Election Results Announced

LD211003 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0904 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Feb (KUNA) — The final results of the elections for the Kuwaiti National Assembly have been announced at dawn today amid signs of a major change in the basic structure of the Assembly. New elements have entered it for the first time, while well known names have left the Assembly, which is unique in the Gulf Arab countries. The biggest surprise in the elections held yesterday, was the changing of more than half of the Assembly's members and the return of known nationalists such as Dr Ahmad al-Khatib.

The final results have shown that 28 new members have been elected, out of a total membership of 50. The National Assembly is shared by two major movements — the democratic rally and the conservative movement. Most prominent among developments in the elections for the new Assembly has been the return of Dr Ahmad al-Khatib, a founding member of the Arab nationalist movement in the 1950's and a member of all Kuwaiti national assemblies since independence, except for the previous one in which he failed to win a seat.

Dr Al-Khatib was a member of the Constituent Assembly which drew up the constitution of Kuwait. He was elected to the first, second, third, and fourth sessions of the National Assembly. Among the most prominent winners for the democratic rally are Dr Ahmad al-Rab'i, who enters the Assembly for the first time and is a Harvard University graduate and a doctor of philosphy at Kuwait University, and Sami Al-Munayyis, a member of previous assemblies except for the last one. He is the editor of the Kuwaiti weekly magazine *AL-TALI'AH* and deputy chairman of the Arab Journalists Union for Freedom.

The Democratic Rally entered the elections with a unified list of six candidates, of whom Abdallah al-Nibari, Ahmad al-Nafisi, and 'Abd al-'Ali Nasir lost.

The elections marked a limiting of the religious movement, represented in the failure of two of the most prominent members of this movement — Khalid al-Sultan and 'Isa Majid al-Shahan. Other well known names have also lost, including the former speaker of the National Assembly, Muhammad al-Adsani, Jasmin al-Saqr, and Ahmad Al-Takhim. Prominent among the new winners are Engineer 'Abd al-Rahman al-Ghunaym, under secretary of the Ministry of Communications; Hamad al-Jawan, former general director of Social Security; and Jasim Al-Qutami.

The Cabinet is expected to submit its resignation next Saturday to Amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah. The new Cabinet will be formed within 2 weeks, as provided for in the Constitution.

People 'Jubilant' Following Elections

LD211116 Kuwait KUNA in English 0536 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 21 (KUNA) — The people across the state of Kuwait appeared to be in jubilant mood Thursday morning after the sixth elections results were officially announced for the 50-seat National Assembly.

The election fever which prevailed all over the 25 constituencies for full one month reaching at its peak during the last week of the election campaign, was over and the voters, including mostly the young ones, rushed to congratulate the candidates of their choice who were declared elected.

The elected deputies, including 31 new faces, represent 1,790,000 inhabitants including Oyniri voters, in the only elected parliament in the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to [word indistinct] their demands mainly for economic reforms and women's rights.

A total of 19 candidates who served in the outgoing assembly were reelected to the new parliament after ensuring their voters that they would make greater efforts to help reorganize the national economy and offset the adverse effects of the Al-Manakh crisis which caused a severe blow to the otherwise strong economy of the state of Kuwait.

The 231 candidates who had organized a vigorous campaign in their respective constituencies came from all walks of life including tribal representatives, businessmen, and technocrats, and their election debates dominated economic issues such as the reorganization of economy and social reforms forging their state into the 21st century.

Although the elections were held on non-party basis, some of the highly educated and progressive candidates had formed their informal alliances based on coordinated economic plans and religious affinities in an attempt to mobilise voters assuring them that the members of these alliances, if elected to the new parliament, would play a significant role jointly in realizing the cher-

ished desires of the people in making their homeland economically more stable and politically more active.

The polls this year, sixth in 25 years, were free and fair as usual and the minister of interior was seen visiting the polling centres and supervising the balloting all over the country personally in an attempt to ensure smooth casting of votes and to avoid any kind of irregularities.

The polling, which was organized in close cooperation with the Justice Ministry, was technically conducted through computers installed particularly for this purpose. The national television kept a window open all night for the people to watch the polling across the country and see their country going through the exercise of enjoying the right to self-determination.

The people having a full sense of participation in their national affairs felt satisfied with the democratic march of their country, which they wish to make a welfare state in the real sense of the word.

Diplomats here, and the foreign correspondents visiting the country, were also watching with interest the polling and the results of the only parliamentary elections in the Arabian Gulf. The foreign communities living in this country were equally impressed by the smooth and fair polling, which reminded them of elections in other truly democratic countries in the world.

The polling was thin in the early hours Wednesday morning, but as time passed by the voters started rushing towards their polling centres to cast their precious votes in favour of the candidates of their choice. A few minutes before the closing the candidates and their election workers were seen making desperate attempts checking the electoral lists and making every possible efforts to bring every remaining voter to the polls.

Behind the scenes the Kuwaiti women were also taking equal interest in the democratic process of their country and were reported to be making every possible efforts to get the elderly and the sick people ready and sending them to the polls to cast their votes.

The turnout was good, and according to certain estimates about 85 percent of the eligible voters exercised their right to choose their representatives to the National Assembly. Free transport was made available by most candidates for all their voters, particularly those who were elderly and sick, some of them confined to beds in various hospitals.

Some of the Kuwaiti voters flew back home particularly to cast their votes and many of them were reported to have postponed their visits abroad in order to be present at home to cast their vote.

Prominent among those who are re-elected is the deputy speaker of the former National Assembly Ahmad al-Sa'dun.

Another prominent candidate among those who are elected for the first time as deputies of the new parliament is Dr Ahmad al-Khatib, who plans to convert his election manifesto with a social and political program, into an action plan to be pursued in the new parliament.

The government headed by his highness the crown prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah was declared out of office following the official announcement of the results of elections. The Government is now reported to be ready to submit its resignation to his highness the amir Saturday morning.

Meanwhile, H.H. the Crown Prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah will finalise the list of ministers to be included in his forthcoming Cabinet which will be officially announced only after it is approved by H.H. the amir.

Results of Parliamentary Election

GF210620 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0536 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Feb (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti Interior Ministry this morning announced the official results of the election of the 50 members of the sixth Kuwait National Assembly, representing 25 electoral constituencies. The results are as follows:

1st Constituency — Al-Sharq:
1. Khalid al-Jumay'an, 538 votes;
2. Ya'qub Muhammad Hayati, 456 votes.

2d Constituency — Al-Mirqab:
1. 'Abdallah Khalif al-Ghunaym, 611 votes;
2. Hamad 'Abdallah al-Jaw'an, 545 votes.

3d Constituency — Al-Qiblah:
1. Jasim 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Qutami, 649 votes;
2. Jasim Muhammad al-Khurafi, 610 votes.

4th Constituency — Al-Di'iyah:
1. Nasir 'Abdallah al-Rawdan, 1073 votes;
2. 'Abdallah Yusuf al-Rumi, 1071 votes.

5th Constituency — Al-Qadisiyah:
1. 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Latif al-Mutawwa', 783 votes;
2. Ahmad Yusuf Baqir al-'Abdallah, 484 votes.

6th Constituency — Al-Fayha':
1. Mishari Jasim al-'Anjari, 1148 votes;
2. Humud Hamad al-Rumi, 798 votes.

7th Constituency — Kifan:
1. Jasim Muhammad al-'Awn, 601 votes;
2. Faysal 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sani', 594 votes.

8th Constituency — Hawalli:
1. 'Abdallah Fahd al-Nafisi, 951 votes;
2. Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Rab'i, 760 votes.

9th Constituency — Al-Rawdah:
1. Jasir Khalid al-Jasir, 782 votes;
2. Dr Ahmad al-Khatib, 754 votes.

10th Constituency — Al-'Udayliyah:
1. Salih Yusuf al-Fadalah, 920 votes;
2. Sami Ahmad al-Munayyis, 739 votes.

11th Constituency — Al-Khalidiyah:
1. Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'dun, 820 votes;
2. Muhammad Sulayman al-Murshid, 668 votes.

12th Constituency — Al-Salimiyah:
1. Salim 'Abdallah al-Hammad, 747 votes;
2. Rashid 'Awad al-Juwaysir, 583 votes;

13th Constituency — Al-Rumaythiyah:
1. 'Abbas al-Khadari, 1378 votes;
2. Dr Nasir Sarkhuwah, 1213 votes.

14th Constituency — Abraq Khitan:
1. Humud Nasir al-Jabri, 810 votes;
2. Nasir al-Bannay, 774 votes.

15th Constituency — Al-Farwaniyah:
1. 'Abbas Habib Munawir, 782 votes;
2. Muhammad Mufrij 'Asi al-Musaylam, 753 votes.

16th Constituency — Al-'Umariyah:
1. Mubarak Fahd al-Duwaylah, 1106 votes;
2. Barrak Nasir Falah al-Nun Abu Qahtah, 866 votes.

17th Constituency — Jalib al-Shuyukh:
1. Faysal Bandar al-Duwaysh, 663 votes;
2. Yusuf Khalid al-Mukhlid, 635 votes.

18th Constituency — Al-Sulaybikhat:
1. Khalaf Dumaythir al-'Anzi, 895 votes;
2. Sayyah Shayi' Abu Shaybah, 730 votes.

19th Constituency — Al-Jahra' al-Jadidah:
1. Munayzil Jasir al-'Anzi, 692 votes;
2. Ahmad Nassar Mutlaq al-Shuray'an, 635 votes.

20th Constituency — Al-Jahra' al-Qadimah:
1. 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Khalaf al-Sa'id, 728 votes;
2. Falah Mubarak Hayf al-Hajraf [no figures given].

21st Constituency — Al-Ahmadi:
1. Du'ayj Khalifah Talal al-Jariy, 1206 votes;
2. Khalid 'Ajran al-'Ajran, 1073 votes.

22nd Constituency — Al-Riqqah:
1. Sa'd Falah Tami al-'Ajami, 692 votes;
2. Hadi Hayif al-Huwaylah, 615 votes.

23rd Constituency — Al-Sabahiyah:
1. Mubarak Ra'i al-Fahma', 1283 votes;
2. Khamis Mutlaq 'Uqab, 1266 votes.

24th Constituency — Al-Fuhayhil:
1. Mubarak Hamad Hadi Zuwayr, 1046 votes;
2. Rashid Sayf al-Juhaylan, 920 votes.

25th Constituency — Umm al-Hayman:
1. 'Ayid 'Alush, 795 votes;
2. Hadil al-Jalawi, 767 votes.

AL-QABAS on Formation of Next Government

GF171640 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 16 Feb 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Well, What Next?"]

[Excerpts] Most of the National Assembly candidates have had their final say. During the past weeks, these candidates have proposed many ideas, plans, concepts, and solutions which they believe necessary for the country's problems and issues.

Some candidates have gone too far in criticizing the situation, while others have crossed all lines in their criticism. We must assume that all that was said during election campaigns was said in good will and is intended for correcting the political, economic, and social situation. We also must acknowledge the government's and officials' tolerance for all that has been said during the past few weeks. This is the prerequisite and main characteristic of Kuwait's democracy.

Amid this great political pandemonium which the country is witnessing, one question becomes urgent: How will the next government be formed? Of course, we all know that the extraordinary situation through which Kuwait and the region are passing require an extraordinary government to rise to the level of events.

Each country has its own circumstances which determine its cabinet. Governments are sometimes characterized by certain features and a country is usually said to need a cabinet of technocrats and at other times needs a cabinet of technicians, civil servants, politicians, economists, and so forth.

Kuwait's current situation and speculations about the future all indicate that we need a government which includes a number of men who are widely known for their political and economic experience and leadership proficiency.

Interior Minister on GCC Preparedness

LD201159 Kuwait KUNA in English 1101 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Jeddah, Feb 20 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad was quoted as saying here Wednesday that security apparatuses in the Gulf region are taking into consideration all surrounding circumstances and are ready to confront any danger threatening stability and security in the region.

In an interview with *AL-MADINAH* daily newspaper, Shaykh Nawwaf lauded the high-level coordination among the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, and said the recent conference of the Arab interior ministers in Tunis had reached positive results.

On the issue of unified passports for the GCC citizens, Shaykh Nawwaf said it is going to be discussed by the GCC interior ministers at their forthcoming meeting, which is due to tackle the outcome of the recent conference of the directors of GCC passports departments.

OMAN

Information Minister Meets With Egyptian Counterpart

GF191433 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The first official session of talks between the Omani side, led by 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas, minister of information, and the Egyptian side, led by Safwat al-Sharif, Egyptian radio and television affairs minister, who is currently visiting the country, began at the Information Ministry at noon today.

'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas stated that the Oman-Egypt talks are a new incentive to develop the information work between the two fraternal countries and a reflection of the close relations between His Majesty Sultan Qabus Al Bu Sa'id and his brother Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and the peoples of the two countries.

He described the Oman-Egypt talks as a new step to expand the framework of information cooperation between the two fraternal countries so as to develop the information work in a way that meets the aspirations and ambitions of the peoples of the two countries, under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qabus and His Excellency Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

'Abd al-'Aziz Al-Rawwas lauded the existing information cooperation between the two countries and noted the existing correspondence between the information networks of the two countries. He stated that this represents an honest display of close Oman-Egypt relations.

Safwat al-Sharif stated that this meeting is within the framework of the stable relations between His Majesty Sultan Qabus Al Bu Sa'id and his brother Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the people of the two countries. It is also within the framework of the information protocol signed by the two countries 2 years ago, which stipulates the convening of meetings annually on the ministerial level, to be held alternately in Muscat and Cairo.

The Egyptian minister of radio and television affairs pointed out that the two countries were able to realize much in the sector of information cooperation. He described the steps realized on the path of information cooperation as an embodiment of the convergence of views between the two countries. He stated that Oman-Egypt cooperation is a unique example based on an honest view which should prevail in our Arab world.

The session was attended on the Omani side by Sa'id ibn Nasir Al-Ghusaybi, under secretary of the Information Ministry, and a number of officials at the ministry. The Egyptian side was represented by the members of the delegation accompanying the Egyptian minister of radio and television affairs.

QATAR

Coverage of Visit of Tunisian Presidential Adviser

Amir Receives Bourguiba Message

GF191800 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Doha, Feb 19, (WAKH) — H.H. the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani Tuesday received a message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba dealing with means to strengthen bilateral relations in various fields and matters of mutual concern. The message was delivered by Habib Bourguiba [Jr] during an audience with H.H. the amir today.

Defense Minister Receives Envoy

GF201155 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari defense minister and heir apparent, received at his office at Doha Palace today Habib Bourguiba Jr, the special adviser to the Tunisian president. The heir apparent and defense minister welcomed the Tunisian adviser. He hailed the fraternal firm relations and the continuous cooperation between the State of Qatar and the fraternal Republic of Tunisia.

The meeting was attended by 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah al-'Atiyah, director of the office of the heir apparent and defense minister, and Mohamed al-Mahrez, Tunisian ambassador in Doha.

Foreign Minister Receives Envoy

GF201202 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, received at his office at the ministry today Habib Bourguiba Jr, special adviser to the Tunisian president. During the meeting, they reviewed the fraternal relations between the State of Qatar and the Republic of Tunisia in addition to a number of issues of mutual concern. The meeting was attended by Mohamed al-Mahrez, Tunisian ambassador to Qatar.

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Bandar 'Pleased' With Damascus Visit

PM201233 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Feb 85 p 1

[Wahib Muhammad Ghurab report: "Prince Bandar ibn Sultan Tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: Satisfaction with the Damascus Visit and Identity of Views Between King Fahd and President Al-Asad in the Interest of the Arabs"]

[Excerpts] Damascus — Saudi Ambassador to the United States Prince Bandar ibn Sultan has expressed complete satisfaction with the results of his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-ASAT* he said that he was fully satisfied with the results of his visit to Damascus and found an identity of views and ideas between King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and President al-Asad in the interest of the Arabs and the unanimity we are always seeking to achieve.

He added: "I am very pleased with what I heard from his excellency the Syrian president, who also said that he was pleased with what I conveyed to him from his majesty the king. This is not strange, because the two Arab leaders, King Fahd and President al-Asad, both serve the same common interests of the Arab nation."

Asked if the main purpose of his lightning visit to Damascus was to brief the Syrian president on the results of King Fahd's visit to Washington, Prince Bandar said that "consultations between King Fahd and President al-Asad cover all topics and are not restricted to one. All issues will be discussed in the general interests of the Arab nation."

Asked if he delivered a message from King Fahd to the Syrian president, he said: "I believe that our relations have reached a stage too advanced to be confined to messages."

In reply to another question as to whether his tour will cover other Arab countries, he said: "Let us not anticipate events. Everything is possible."

Prince Badar, once King Fahd's envoy charged with resolving the Lebanese crisis, had the following to say on the Israeli withdrawal from Sidon: "The Kingdom's position is one of support for the people and Government of Lebanon in their efforts to end the Israeli occupation. We believe that there should be complete withdrawal from Lebanon."

In what is probably the first Saudi comment on the withdrawal, he also said: "Israel has perpetrated and caused many tragedies in Lebanon, and the time has come to end all that. We undoubtedly welcome the withdrawal, provided it is complete, not partial. We firmly belive that the unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of Lebanon should be preserved so that it will remain Arab.

UAE

Defense Minister, Japanese Envoy Discuss 'Tanker War'

GF201032 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0912 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Dubayy, 20 Feb (WAKH) — UAE Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid has met with Japanese ambassador in Abu Dhabi Shuichi Nomiyama.

WAM reported that Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid listened to the Japanese ambassador who conveyed to him the Japanese Government's point of view regarding the tanker war in the Gulf and his government's stance on the attack 2 days ago against the Kuwaiti cargo ship, *Al-Manakh* — which is leased to one of the Japanese corporations — and which led to the death of a technician from the ship's Japanese crew.

The agency added that the UAE defense minister informed the Japanese ambassador of the UAE's fixed stance, represented in the necessity of maintaining the freedom of international navigation in the Gulf and of guaranteeing the safety of tankers irrespective of their identity.

PDRY

Bulgarian Health Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

GF182022 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office today Comrade Radoy Petrov Popivanov, Bulgarian minister of public health.

During the meeting, Comrade Popivanov expressed his personal congratulations to Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas on the occasion of his election as chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers. He also conveyed to him the greetings of Comrade Filipov Grisha, Bulgarian chairman of the Council of Ministers.

They also reviewed and discussed the multisided relations between the two friendly countries and ways of developing and strengthening them.

Comrade Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas expressed to Comrade Popivanov his gratitude and appreciation for the warm congratulations he received with great pleasure and asked him to convey his warm greetings to Comrade Filipov Grisha.

Dr 'Abdallah Ahmad Bukayr, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of health; members of the Bulgarian delegation; and Comrade Dimo Khristov Kamburov the Bulgarian ambassador in Aden, attended the meeting.

Comrade Radoy Petrov Popivanov, Bulgarian minister of public health and member of the Standing Committee of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, left Aden today at the conclusion of a 2-day visit to the PDRY, during which he held talks with the brother officials at the Health Ministry and the PDRY Peasants' Association on strenthening relations between the two health ministries and [word indistinct].

Mubarak Inspects Army Positions in Sinai 20 Feb

NC201618 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1536 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text]Sinai, 20 Feb(MENA)— President Husni Mubarak today made a field tour in Sinai; he inspected some positions of the 2d Field Army and met with Army personnel.

President Mubarak was accompanied on this tour by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Lieutenant General Sayyid Hamdi, commander of the Air Defense Forces; Air Lieutenant General Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi, commander of the Air Forces; and Major General Safiy al-Din Abu Shanaf, commander of the 2d Field Army.

President Mubarak arrived at a military airport in Sinai at 0930 today and was received by Maj Gen Safyi al-Din Abu Shanaf, commander of the 2d Field Army.

After the military band played the national anthem, President Mubarak shook hands with high-ranking officers who stood in line to greet him.

President Mubarak and his accompanying delegation then visited a number of military positions and fortifications, met with soldiers at their positions and aboard their vehicles, inquired about their living conditions, and talked with them about their future civilian lives.

In his dialogue with the soldiers, the president lauded the role of the Armed Forces and their sacrifices in defending the homeland.

President Mubarak later met with personnel of the 2d Field Army. The meeting was attended by Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah and commanders of the main branches of the Armed Forces. Maj Gen Abu Shanaf delivered a speech at the outset of the meeting emphasizing the 2d Field Army's complete confidence in its military and political leadership under President Mubarak as well as the readiness of the Army's officers and soldiers to sacrifice their souls and blood for the homeland.

The commander then presented the Army's sword of honor to President Mbarak as a token gift on behalf of the soldiers. The sword bore the inscription: From the fighters of the 2d Field Army to Egypt's eagle Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

After the meeting, President Mubarak returned to Cairo.

'Abd al-Majid Views Arab Ties, Nonaligned States

NC201530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has emphasized Egypt's Arab affiliation, saying that Egypt constitutes strength for the Arabs and vice versa. He said that Egypt's Arab responsibility has priority in Egypt's political moves. He noted that reaching a just and comprehensive settlement to the Palestinian people's issue is a basic goal in Egypt's policy. In a statement today, 'Abd al-Majid also affirmed Egypt's fundamental link with Africa.

Referring to Egypt's relations with the Islamic and nonaligned countries, 'Abd al-Majid asserted Egypt's concern to strengthen its relations with the nonaligned countries for the benefit of this group's peoples. He also explained Egypt's relations with the United States and the Soviet Union.

Concluding his statement, 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that peace is a firm strategy in Egypt's policy and that economic development is a necessity dictated by Egypt's national interests.

Cabinet Discusses 'Abd al-Majid's Visit to U.S.

NC201812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — During its meeting today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, the cabinet discussed the results of the recent visits by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Planning and International Cooperation Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri to the United States.

During the meeting, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid described his visit to the United States as positive. He said that senior U.S. Administration officials displayed understanding of Egypt's views on the moves to achieve a solution to the Palestinian issue and of Egypt's request for increasing U.S. aid to Egypt.

Dr al-Janzuri reviewed the results of his talks with World Bank officials. He pointed out that the bank approved Egypt's request to use loans amounting to $394 million which had been made available but were later suspended. He said that the bank also showed readiness to negotiate new loans amounting to $614 million for use in the production sector.

The planning minister then referred to the results of his talks with U.S. aid agency officials. He said that these officials showed understanding of Egypt's request to increase additional AID for the current year out of appreciation for Egypt's efforts and earnest implementation of the 5-year plan and increase in the rates of production.

Netherlands Foreign Minister Broek Visits

Arrives in Cairo

NC200553 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) — Hans van den Broek, Netherlands minister of foreign affairs, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo tonight aboard a private plane. He is on a 3-day visit to Egypt, and is scheduled to meet with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. He will also hold talks tomorrow with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid on the latest developments in the Middle East, with particular emphasis on the recent Palestinian-Jordanian agreement.

The Netherlands minister was received at the airport by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Umran al-Shaf'i, the Netherlands ambassador to Cairo, and other embassy employees. Upon arrival, the Netherlands foreign minister said he came to explore

Egypt's views on recent developments, and praised Egypt's contribution to achieving peace in the region.

Commenting on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, the Netherlands minister said it was a major development in the search for peace and that it would further efforts to achieve peace. The Netherlands, he said, encourages such steps.

Broek also described Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon as a positive step. The European Community, he said, has long advocated such a withdrawal and we hope to see it completed without delay.

Asked about the U.S.-USSR talks in Vienna, Broek said they are very important, since they show that the superpowers are not only interested in world problems, but also in regional ones, like the Middle East situation.

Confers With 'Ali

NC201139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received Hans van den Broek, Netherlands minister of foreign affairs, in his office.

The international situation, Middle East developments, the Palestinian issue, and the Iraq-Iran war were reviewed during the meeting. The talks also dealt with the role of the EEC in reaching a just and lasting solution to the Middle East problem as well as means of bolstering bilateral relations in economic and technical fields.

Talks With 'Abd al-Majid

NC201305 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and the Netherlands began today under Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Hans van den Broek, Netherlands minister of foreign affairs.

After first holding private talks for half an hour, the two ministers were then joined by members of their respective delegations. The Egyptian delegation included Ambassadors 'Imran al-Shafi'i and Muhsin Fahmi, assistants to the foreign minister; 'Ali Shawqi al-Hadidi, head of the Cultural Department; Wafiq Husni, head of the Economic Department; 'Ali Khayrat, head of the West Europe Department; and Muhammad al-Zawayi, director of the minister's office. The Netherlands delegation included the country's ambassador in Cairo, N. Biegman and members of the delegation accompanying the minister.

During the meeting, the two sides comprehensively reviewed the Middle East situation in light of recent developments in the region, particularly the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. Dr 'Abd al-Majid reviewed Egypt's efforts and contacts to obtain success for this Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and to secure support for it from all parties concerned.

The Netherlands minister of foreign affairs stressed the role of concerned parties in reaching a common basis for understanding. He also emphasized the readiness of the EEC to help these parties in setting matters in motion. He noted the importance of the Jordanian role, with the cooperation of the United States, in giving impetus to the peace process.

The talks also dealt with the development of Egyptian-Arab and Egyptian-Israeli relations, as well as the contacts currently underway between the United States and the Soviet Union on the Middle East. The talks covered bilateral relations and their reinforcement in all fields, particularly the cultural, economic, and technical spheres.

Tonight Dr 'Abd al-Majid will host a dinner banquet in honor of the Netherlands guest and the members of his delegation. The Netherlands minister of foreign affairs arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 3-day visit at the invitation of Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

'Abd al-Majid Statement

NC201321 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Egypt and the Netherlands today signed a cultural cooperation protocol for 1985-1986. The protocol was signed on behalf of Egypt by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and on behalf of the Netherlands by Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek.

Following the signing of the protocol and the session of talks he held with his Netherlands counterpart, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that this protocol is a new addition to the excellent relations between Egypt and the Netherlands.

Replying to a question concerning Egypt's stand on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: Egypt's stand, as declared by President Husni Mubarak, considers this agreement to be a step along the right course. Egypt supports this step because the Egyptian aim is to bolster the peace process.

The foreign minister said he hopes that Israel will understand the agreement and consider it a step toward achieving peace.

Replying to a question on the possibility of a meeting between President Mubarak and the Israeli prime minister, 'Abd al-Majid said: Egypt is ready for this meeting, but believes very good preparations are required for it to achieve useful results.

On his part, the Netherlands minister of foreign affairs said that the cultural protocol will strengthen bilateral relations. He said that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is an important development which we hope will lead to a new step in the peace process. His excellency also expressed satisfaction with the start of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon as the Netherlands had previously called for it. He expressed his hope that the withdrawal will be completed without delay or problems.

Romania's Manescu Begins 3-Day Visit to Cairo

Arrives in Cairo

NC191236 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) — Manea Manescu, vice president of the Romanian Council of State, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Egypt.

The Romanian official said that he will convey a written message to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. He added that he will hold talks with President Mubarak and ranking Egyptian officials on ways to consolidate the relations between the two countries in all fields. He said that he is a personal envoy of President Ceausescu. He described the relations between Egypt and Romanian as excellent, reflecting the profound friendship between Presidents Mubarak and Ceausescu and the strong friendship between the two countries and peoples.

The Romanian envoy was received at the airport by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning and international cooperation, and the Romanian ambassador in Cairo.

Meets With 'Ali

NC201105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — Manea Manescu, personal envoy and vice president of the Romanian Council of State, stated that his country considers the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement as a positive factor toward finding a just and comprehensive solution for the Middle East problem.

In a statement, following his meeting today with prime minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali at the cabinet office, Manescu said that discussions dealt with bilateral relations, particularly in the economic spheres. He added that these relations are becoming closer currently and will continue to do so in the future.

Manescu arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 3-day visit.

Charge D'Affaires Leaves for Tel Aviv 20 Feb

NC201905 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — Minister Plenipotentiary Muhammad Basyuni, Egyptian charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, left Cairo for Israel this evening.

The charge d'affaires told our correspondent that he was summoned to Cairo for consultations and discussions on the way to solve pending problems between Egypt and Israel, particularly the Tabah issue.

He said that the first round of talks held in Beersheba under the chairmanship of Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi and Israeli ambassador Tzvi Kidar achieved some positive points on which both delegations agreed relating to the entry of the multinational force into the Tabah area.

He said that a date is now being set through diplomatic channels for the second round of talks which will be held in Ismailia.

AL-AHRAM Views Soviet Stand on PLO-Jordan Agreement

NC210640 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — In its Thursday's commentary, *AL-AHRAM* denounces the attack launched by the Soviet information media today on PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement that was declared over 10 days ago.

Referring to the Soviet news agency TASS' contention that the agreement provokes division and disagreements in the Arab world, *AL-AHRAM* says it is strange that this should be the official stand Moscow declares on the same day that the PLO Executive Committee approved the text of the agreement.

AL-AHRAM adds: It is stranger still that the Soviet stand not only criticizes the agreement but goes beyond that to accuse Yasir 'Arafat of working to (?undermine) the authority of the PLO when, in actual fact, he has been the PLO's leader for 20 years; during this time he has enabled the PLO to overcome the most critical and violent crises.

In this respect, the paper believes that the Soviet Union has chosen to align itself with the dissenters from Fatah and Yasir 'Arafat as the PLO's leader.

Concluding its commentary, *AL-AHRAM* says that out of eagerness to preserve relations between the Soviet Union and the Palestinians, we hope that the Soviet Government will reconsider its stand on the agreement.

Armed Forces Issue Communique No 1,748

JN201724 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,748 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 20 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave soldiers of right, who are loyal to Iraq's soil and well known for their unique courage and efficient performance, continue to confront the remnants of the clique of backwardness and subversion in all operational sectors, inflicting the punishment they deserve. The following is a progress report on the operations for yesterday evening and today:

1. Units from our forward forces in the IV Army Corps sector carried out three bold and successful raids against enemy positions and installations early this morning. They managed to penetrate deeply behind the enemy positions. With splendid support from artillery, mortars, and helicopters, the force managed to destroy the enemy positions and to kill and wound a large number of enemy personnel. The force then returned safely to its positions, praise be to God.

2. In confirmation of our air superiority in all battlefields, the brave Sky Hawks continued to deal destructive blows to the enemy's collapsing remnants, positions, and vehicles in the Maysan sector. Our Sky Hawks carried out 15 combat missions today, after which they returned to base safely and triumphantly, praise be to God.

3. The brave heroes of the helicopter gunships continued to drop their destructive shells on the enemy's remnants and positions in the operational sector east of Basra yesterday evening, inflicting large losses in men and equipment and completely destroying 14 personnel assembly points. The helicopter heroes returned safely with their aircraft, praise be to God.

4. Using artillery and other weapons, units from our forward formations pounded enemy concentrations, vehicles, and engineering sites in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting losses in equipment and killing or wounding several troops. The known losses were: five infantry positions, three observation posts, two hardware stockpiles, and one observation post destroyed; one enemy soldier killed; and several vehicles set on fire. Columns of smoke were seen rising from the targets that were hit.

5. With firmness and determination, our forward units in the central sector of the operational theater continued to engage enemy positions, personnel, and vehicles with concentrated strikes, killing 12 and wounding others; they also destroyed 2 large vehicles and 1 infantry position, whose occupants were killed.

6. Fresh groups of civilians and military men sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the operational theater. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

7. Yesterday evening, the criminal enemy shelled the village of Al-Shihabi with heavy artillery, demolishing one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 February 1985

French Minister Arrives on 2-Day Visit

JN192044 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Feb (INA) — French Telecommunications Minister [as received] Louis Mexandeau arrived here tonight at the head of a delegation on a 2-day visit to Iraq. He will hold talks with Iraqi officials on ways of promoting bilateral cooperation in the fields of transport and communications.

Talks With 'Abd Al-Rahim

JN201512 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — The Iraqi-French committee for cooperation in the field of posts and telecommunications began its meetings here today. Transport and Communications Minister 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim chaired the Iraqi side and Posts and Telecommunications Minister [as received] Louis Mexandeau chaired the French side.

During its 2-day meetings, the committee will discuss ways to transfer technology and incorporate it in the field of digital communications. It will also discuss ways to perpetuate the operation of projects, maintain modern telecommunications systems, introduce modern technology in the field of postal services, and exchange expertise and training fellowships between the two countries.

The Iraqi side to the committee was comprised of some Transport and Communications Ministry officials, while the French side was comprised of the members of the accompanying delegation and the French ambassador in Baghdad.

Mauritanian Minister Departs After 3-Day Visit

JN201515 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation [title as received], left Baghdad this afternoon following a 3-day visit to Iraq. The Mauritanian envoy delivered a written message from Mauritanian President Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed to President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral issues and international affairs.

Jordanian, Sudanese Envoys Leave Baghdad

Jordanian Envoy

GF201206 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tahir al-Masri, Jordanian foreign minister and personal envoy of King Husayn to President Saddam Husayn, left Baghdad for Amman following a 24-hour visit to the country. During his visit, Al-Masri conveyed a message to President Saddam

Husayn from his brother King Husayn dealing with bilateral relations and current Arab situations.

Sudanese Envoy

JN201254 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Muhammad 'Uthamn Abu Saq, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn and secretary of the SSU organizations committee, left Baghdad today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq.

During the visit, the Sudanese envoy delivered a written message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri to President Saddam Husayn on issues of common interest and the current world situation.

'Ubaydat, EC Envoy Discuss New Cooperation Accord

JN210958 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
21-22 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat Wednesday conferred with the European Community (EC) representative in Amman, Romani Lantini, and reviewed economic, technical and commercial bilateral relations based on a 1978 cooperation agreement between Jordan and the EC.

They also discussed the renewal of the similar five-year cooperation agreement.

Mr Lantini told the *JORDAN TIMES* that the current agreement, which will be invalid by the end of 1985, provides for offering EC technical support to vocational training schools, the Universities of Jordan and Yarmouk and other cooperation in the field of industrial and economic development. They also drew up a schedule of joint projects to be implemented through a priority scale within the new five-year plan, Mr. Lantini added.

The EC has offered Jordan assistance for setting up an energy planning unit through an agreement signed in Amman in December of last year. The agreement, which was signed by the Ministry of Planning, stipulates that the EC will provide Jordan with specialists and training for Jordanian personnel and data-collecting methods and ways of improving energy planning. The agreement also offers technical assistance to the energy unit at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

EC financial aid to Jordan is expected to reach 450 million European Currency Units (ECU), ranging from soft loans to grants. The EC offers expertise for operating the Yarmouk University computer centre and consultancy work to the Engineering Faculty at the University of Jordan.

Al-Qasim Leaves for Paris With King's Message

JN201819 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
20 Feb 85

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, left for Paris today to convey a message from His Majesty King Husayn to His Excellency French President Francois Mitterrand on the formula of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint move on which Jordan and the PLO agreed in Amman last week.

Hikmat Pledges Support for Information Media

JN210853 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
21-22 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — The official Jordanian information media will receive full support from the government to enable it to adquately fulfill its objectives, according to Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities and Acting Minister of Information Tahir Hikmat.

Mr Hikmat was speaking to the staff of the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, and the agency's director, Mr. Jawad Maraqah, during a visit to the news agency on Wednesday.

Mr. Hikmat praised the efforts of PETRA staff, editors and reporters and assured them that the government will soon formalise a new basis for the agency's work, ensuring a quality step ahead in its performance.

Later, the minister held discussions with PETRA staff on conditions affecting the agency's work both locally and abroad.

TIMES Urges Less Attention to Details of Accord

JN210909 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
21-22 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Issues of Principle"]

[Text] The on-going debate about the real significance of the Jordan-PLO accord of last week runs the risk of focusing too much attention on details, while ignoring the more important issues of principle that should be addressed.

The news from Tunis that the PLO's Executive Committee and other Palestinian quarters have approved the accord should add to its importance. This is not because there are major new political positions in the accord. In fact, most of the details that have been released seem to reflect positions the Arabs accepted several years ago.

The important thing is the manner in which the PLO and Jordan have brought into one package several different elements related to Arab-Israeli peace-making, with the intention of having this joint position reflect a broader Arab consensus on the possibilities of negotiating peace with Israel.

Thus, it is silly for people to spend so much time investigating whether or not the accord means the PLO has accepted U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. The answer is: yes and no. No, the PLO does not accept 242 as an isolated resolution. Yes, the PLO accepts the concept of exchanging land for peace, the fundamental and operative concept that forms the political heart of 242.

The greater significance of the Jordan-PLO accord is that it sends a message, it tells Israelis and others to the west that there is a growing consensus for negotiations in the Arab world as the best means to resolve the Palestinian issue. The message is rather clear, even if its component parts are open to discussion and refinement. It seems to us that those who care to move peace prospects forward should now look more closely at Israel, the United States, the Soviet Union, and others who have to respond positively if Arab peace overtures are to get anywhere.

AL-DUSTUR Urges Arab Support for Accord With PLO

JN211018 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
21 Feb 85 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "A Nucleus for Larger Arab Moves"]

[Text] Now that the PLO Executive Committee has approved the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and adopted it for the joint move that is aimed at forming a nucleus for larger Arab moves,

we may say that this agreement, which was the result of profound brotherly dialogues, has become immune to all those who cast doubt or try to outbid others. This agreement has raised the level of relations between the two sides, making them conform to the historic and geographic realities and the joint existence of the two peoples. The challenges that the Jordanians and Palestinians faced in the past and which they are facing at present, as well as the joint aspirations of the two peoples, have created a far deeper agreement than this one, which makes every political formula a mere denouement of the salient developments of common, everyday life.

In view of these facts, Jordanians and Palestinians have always been able to comprehend the significance of their special, historical relations within the more comprehensive pan-Arab bond. Those who shared their resources and together experienced the pains of the past and the bitterness of the present have continued to strengthen their deep-rooted relationship and have, in accordance with their joint interests, continued to plan their steps with the aim of saving the kinfolk and delivering the land and holy places.

Such an agreement, which expresses the deep aspirations of the two peoples for the same future that awaits them, is in need of large-scale Arab support and blessings and the weight of an Arab consensus in order to realize all the hopes that are pinned on it.

As we view the PLO Executive Committee's adoption of this agreement as a first and major step on a long, arduous road, we hope that an Arab consensus in support of this agreement will emerge so that it will be presented to the international community with the aim of realizing the aspirations of the concerned peoples — the liberation of the land and delivering the kinfolks and holy places.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Comments on Mideast Talks in Vienna

JN201202 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Feb 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The Vienna Meeting and Revision of Accounts"]

[Text] The U.S. State Department spokesman has described the Vienna talks between Richard Murphy and Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as an attempt to review the accounts regarding the region's issues.

This meeting is the second, within a short period, in which the Middle East issue has been a topic of direct discussion between the two superpowers.

Although the attention of the two superpowers is centered on international detente and disarmament on earth and in space, at this stage the reenhancement of detente requires a study of all the hotbeds in the world, foremost being the current disputes in the Middle East.

The Vienna talks will be no more than an exploratory stage and an attempt to test stands in light of other world interests. These talks will not be from the perspective of the states involved in these disputes, but will be from a comprehensive and international perspective that takes into consideration the interests of the big powers.

The Vienna talks will not be confined to discussing the peace issue and eventual developments within the framework of the Arab- Israeli dispute, but will be extended to include the Lebanese cause and the Israeli withdrawal; developments in Lebanon; the Iraqi-Iranian war; the Iranian stand; Afghanistan; and the red and green lines in the Middle East that are agreed upon by Moscow and Washington.

While we hope that the big power problems would not be solved according to their own interests at the expense of the countries that are involved in the region's disputes, we also hope to see a stage of rationality and objectivity in the two superpowers' approach toward the region's issues and to have the rapprochement between the viewpoints of Washington and Moscow toward the ultimate solutions in our region take place from the perspective of world peace and the responsibility of the big powers toward world security and their commitment toward the peoples' right to live peacefully.

The total U.S. bias toward Israel has reached the extent of neglecting the Arab peoples' rights and existence. The USSR has adopted fundamental principles which respect the will of the region's peoples without relinquishing peace possibilities.

The Vienna sides will have in front of them a positive development and a Jordanian-Palestinian message that centers on the option of justice and peace. It is an initiative that deserves international interest at a stage where movement toward tackling international crises and regional disputes, especially the Middle East disputes, escalates in an alarming way. We hope to have an international move that ends the region's crises and sets a new and real beginning for a comprehensive, honorable, and acceptable peace in this part of the world.

Briefs

Swiss Ambassador Ends Term— Amman (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri hosted a banquet at the Marriott Hotel Wednesday in honour of Swiss Ambassador in Amman Andre-Louis Vallon, on the occasion of the end of his term in office in Jordan. [Excerpt] [*Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 21-22 Feb 85 JN*]

More Electricity Generated— Amman (PETRA) — Electrical energy generated during the fourth quarter of 1984 reached about 206,748.984 kwh against 50.901.040 kwh during the same period in 1983; an increase of 17.5 per cent, according to Jordan Electrcity Authority (JEA) sources. The sources added that 87.1 per cent of the production was generated by steam units, 11.2 by diesel units and 1.7 percent by gas units. JEA contributed by 84.4 percent to the total generated electricity in 1984 against 83.31 per cent during the same period in 1983, the sources pointed out. [Text] [*Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 21-22 Feb 85 p 3 JN*]

Al-Jumayyil Praises National Spirit During Withdrawal

NC201524 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] At the beginning of today's Cabinet session, President Amin al-Jumayyil praised the splendid national spirit exhibited during the first stage of the Israeli withdrawal and the atmosphere of brotherhood and love the people of Sidon have displayed, thus providing encouragement to continue on the path to complete liberation. He maintained that the liberation of Sidon is a first step, pointing out that the second step may be difficult, which demands that we prepare for complete liberation on the basis of the positive results achieved in Sidon.

Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf raised the issue of the airport and the resignation of Brigadier General Yasin Suwayd, commander of the Airport Security Force. It has been decided to discuss this subject during the next Cabinet session. The Army Command has been asked to pay attention to the issue of security at the airport and on the airport road.

Karami on Cabinet Discussions, Sidon Events

NC201520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Rashid Karami by unidentified reporter following a Cabinet meeting held at B'abda Presidential Palace on 20 February — recorded]

[Excerpt][Karami] Today the Cabinet discussed all the necessary measures and arrangements for the Army, the security forces, and all government departments to be prepared and ready to shoulder the responsibilities required of us. This is what we are working for, and we are prepared to fill any vacuum created as a result of the Israeli withdrawal.

We also discussed the issue of Beirut International Airport in its capacity as the link between this country and the outside world. We want this airport to always have a bright image, but this requires that we ensure a positive security and technical capacity at this airport, so it will remain our bridge with the outside world. It is not right for anyone who wants to travel to and from this airport to be subjected to danger. Therefore, we appeal to everyone to safeguard this airport and its area and to ensure all the necessary facilities so it can achieve a standard befitting this civilized country.

I want to address all my brothers and stress my continued optimism. This optimism is increasing daily as a result of the nobility of our people and their adherence to values and to the course we have all agreed upon.

As a council of ministers, we are prepared to call for meetings to discuss political reforms in light of the contents of our government policy statement. The committees asked to undertake specialized and scientific studies of the various issues are about to complete their task and submit their reports. Some committees, such as the Legislative Decrees Committee, were given a specific time framework in which to complete their work. The deadline for this committee has ended, and we are awaiting its study, views, and proposals. When the Cabinet receives these reports it will begin plenary meetings, which we hope all ministers will attend, to decide on the appropriate position through an analytical study and in light of the supreme national interest.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is it possible to consider thatwhat you have just said is an invitation to the absent ministers to attend the Cabinet meetings, and that the Cabinet is prepared to open and discuss these issues?

[Karami] The national unity government, which has committed itself to basic and specific issues — liberation, security, reforms, and reconstruction — still adheres to its commitment. Therefore, when the Cabinet is called to discuss these issues, we hope that the quorum will be complete and all the ministers will attend.

[Reporter] There is one more thing, Mr Prime Minister, that causes concern. It is the problems some people are trying to cause after the Army's entry into Sidon and its area. How do you explain it?

[Karami] I do not want to attribute this to anything other than good intentions and participation in the jubilation of Sidon. It is the right of the Sidon residents to be happy on their national liberation day. What is happening, therefore, is just a display of emotion and solidarity with the residents of Sidon. I think everyone appreciates the position of Sidon's leaders and people, who have committed themselves to a line which they announced and which we all support — that is, to safeguard the security, unity, and solidarity of the Sidon people, and to contribute to the remaining stages of the withdrawal.

Lahd Statement on Army Deployment Clarified

JN210732 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] We have received the following from the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] command:

Some radio stations and newspapers have hinted that ASL Commander Staff Major General Antoine Lahd might resign from his post. These radios and papers attributed to Maj Gen Lahd a statement to the effect that if the area in which he is in command is shrunk, as a result of implementing the second phase of the Israeli withdrawal, to what was described as the border strip, he will consider himself out of the political as well as the military game.

Commenting on this subject, a spokesman of the ASL stated that the statement attributed to Maj Gen Lahd was truncated and distorted. Answering a reporter's question, Maj Gen Lahd had said that he hoped the Lebanese Army would succeed in carrying out the tasks assigned it in Sidon and the Al-Zahrani area, and that stemming from this hope, he withdrew the ASL's elements from the city of Sidon and from a number of Al-Zahrani District positions to give the Lebanese Army an opportunity to prove its efficiency and competence in preserving the peace and security of the areas and the safety of the citizens. However, at the same time, Maj Gen Lahd expressed fear that, now that the politicians have divided the Army into sectarian units, the Army will prove

incapable of carrying out its normal duties and will carry the epidemic of division and sectarianism to the areas in which it will be deployed, thus precipitating a disaster.

Maj Gen Lahd added that should the Lebanese Army prove its efficiency and competence, he will be ready to facilitate the Lebanese Army's entry to the other areas under his command. In that event, there will be no need for a security belt on Israel's northern borders, because the Lebanese Army will have proved its ability to preserve security in all the southern Lebanese areas and to spread the state's authority in these areas. Maj Gen Lahd further added that should the Lebanese Army fail the test of preserving security, the Israeli Government ought to reconsider its withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

French Observers Post in Al-Shuwayfat Closed

NC201747 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] French observers vacated their post in Al-Shuwayfat this afternoon following last night's attack on the post by Junblatt's gunmen which resulted in the death of Major (Paul Rhodes).

The Central Security Committee held an emergency meeting at its headquarters at the race track today at noon. The meeting was attended by Colonel Jean Susini, commander of the French observers in Lebanon, who notified the committee members of his own displeasure and that of his government over the attack which led to the death of a French observer in Al-Shuwayfat last night. He also notified them of his decision to close down the observers post in Al-Shuwayfat.

Army Intelligence Chief Leaves for Damascus

NC201214 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Colonel Simon Qassis, chief of intelligence in the Lebanese Army, left for Damascus today. He was sent there by President al-Jumayyil to learn from the Syrian officials about the results of the talks being held by Ministers Birri, Al-Huss, and Junblatt in the Syrian capital, and to brief the Syrian officials on the events taking place in Sidon.

VOAL on Israeli Actions in 'Arab Salim

NC201839 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] According to the latest reports received this evening from 'Arab Salim, the Zionist enemy today carried out a new massacre in the town. Five people have been killed. Inhabitants of neighboring villages reported that a large number of bodies are scattered in the forests and that scores of citizens have been wounded. The reports add that the occupation forces are banning entry to and exit from the town and are preventing the Red Cross from entering the town. These forces are also opening constant heavy-caliber gunfire inside the town and its environs.

It has been learned that the enemy blew up five houses in the town and put marks on other houses before blowing them up. The enemy also rounded up the inhabitants in garages and refused to give them food and water.

Al-Asad Receives Islamic Grouping Delegation

JN201157 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received the Islamic Grouping delegation at 1145 today. The delegation includes Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, 'Abdallah Babki, Hashim Minqarah, and Malik 'Allush. The delegation congratulated Al-Asad on his reelection for a third constitutional term. The talks dealt with the Lebanese situation in light of the recent developments and the need to direct efforts toward having the march of security, liberation, and national accord succeed.

Foreign Minister Receives Canada's Eliot 20 Feb

JN201238 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Robert Eliot, director general of the Middle East bureau of the Canadian Foreign Ministry, at 1030 today. The Canadian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks dealt with the current political situation in the region and bilateral relations.

Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Speaker Arrives

JN201245 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi has received Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, at the Shooting Club. Al-Husayni arrived in Damascus at 1130 today at the head of a delegation comprising a number of the Chamber's members.

Replying to a question on the nature of his visit to Damascus, Al-Husayni stressed the distinguished relations between Syria and Lebanon,and the sincere brotherhood and common destiny, especially at this time of renewing allegiance to President Hafiz al-Asad, who is leading the battle of Arab struggle against Israeli challenges. He said that Al-Asad has never hesitated in extending aid to Lebanon on the basis of the pan-Arab battle that we are waging together.

Al-Husayni added: We consider renewing allegiance to President Hafiz al-Asad a historic stage that proves that the battle is being led by honest people. It is necessary, at this stage, to mobilize all potentials to benefit from leader Al-Asad's capabilities which are devoted to serving the entire Arab nation.

Replying to another question on the nature of talks he will hold in Damascus, Al-Husayni said: Whenever we meet with leader President Hafiz al-Asad, it is natural for us to review our joint interests and concerns.

Mahmud al-Zu'bi made a statement in which he stressed that Syria will continue to support the Lebanese resistance and people, since the two fraternal countries share the same destiny. He praised the efforts of the Lebanese people and leaders that have led to liberating a dear part of fraternal Lebanon.

Received by Al-Asad

JN201555 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1410 today President Hafiz al-Asad received the Lebanese parliamentary delegation led by Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni. The Lebanese delegation comprises Rafiq Shahin, Rene Nu'awwad, Jamil Kubbah, Zaki Mazbudi, George Sa'adah, Michel Sasin, (Milkun Abligatian), Michel Ma'luli, Salim al-Dawud, Albert Mansur, Salih al-Khayyir, (Aufit Bakhus), 'Ali al-Khalil, Anwar al-Sabah, Tawfiq 'Assaf, and Najah Wakim. People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi attended the meeting.

Al-Husayni and the delegation members congratulated President Hafiz al-Asad on his reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic for a third constitutional term and on the Syrian people's consensus expressed in the referendum and the days that followed the referendum. This consensus is considered one of the reasons why the Arab Syrian people adhere to the course led by the president and follow his leadership, which was responsible for Syria's great achievements and placed Syria in a distinguished position in the Arab and international arenas. Al-Asad's leadership also achieved pan-Arab victories and led the Arab masses in the stands that reject capitulation.

On the occasion of the celebrations held on the liberation of Sidon and its vicinity from the Israeli occupiers, the speaker and members of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies expressed their gratitude for the support of the president and Syria for Lebanon in its struggle to liberate Lebanese territory from the Israeli invaders and in its march along the path of national accord and security. They expressed confidence in the continuation of Arab Syrian support for the Lebanese people in the future battle to complete the liberation of Lebanese territory from the Israeli occupation and to continue work to achieve national accord. They asserted the Lebanese people's determination to continue the battle of liberation, accord, and security and to strengthen ties with Syria.

The president thanked the Lebanese delegation and asked the delegation to convey his greetings to the fraternal Lebanese people and his wishes that they will liberate their territory from the Israeli occupation, regain a natural life for all the Lebanese territory, and regain Lebanon's natural role in the Arab arena.

The president asserted Syria's determination to stand at the side of Lebanon and to offer all possible support in its struggle to expel the Israeli invaders from Lebanese territory, entrench national sovereignty and independence, and spread security in Lebanon. The president expressed his confidence in the Lebanese people's ability to achieve their national objectives, preserve their national unity, and overcome difficulties and obstacles on the march to national accord and security.

In his speech, the president said: Syria harbors love and affection toward all the Lebanese people without any distinction; it opens its heart and extends its hand to everyone in order to preserve Lebanon's independence and sovereignty and to resist the common enemy who is threatening Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation.

The president highly praised the victory achieved by the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Sidon and its vicinity. He emphasized the importance of this event in the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The president praised the national unity which emerged in Sidon and which aborted the enemy's evil schemes. He called for serious action to reinforce national unity in Lebanon, because it is the strongest weapon in the hands of all people seeking freedom, peace, and progress.

Arab League's Klibi Leaves 20 Feb

JN201552 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Damascus this afternoon after a visit to Syria. During his visit, he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and held talks with a number of officials on the situation in the Arab arena. Klibi was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', the head of the Arab homeland section at the Foreign Ministry, the Damascus director of the bureau for boycotting Israel, and the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

Papers React to Israeli Withdrawal From Sidon

Lebanese Resistance 'Victory' Praised

JN181030 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Feb (SANA) — The newspaper *TISHRIN* affirms that the Lebanese resistance, with unlimited Syrian support, was able to change the "Israeli era," which some people imagined has become a fait accompli in Lebanon, into a mere illusion toppled by the heroic epics created by the Lebanese national resistance.

In its comment today, the paper says: The Israeli withdrawal from Sidon and its environs crowns the strategic victory achieved by the cancellation of the 17 May agreement and the evacuation of the Marines and NATO forces from Lebanon.

Thus, this course constitutes an objective alternative to the capitulation slogan raised in Amman, particularly in 'Arafat's divisionist conference, where the slogan of territories in exchange for peace was raised.

In another comment on the same subject, *TISHRIN* says: Israel has expedited its withdrawal to avert human and material losses and not out of love for Lebanon and its sovereignty, nor because the peace for Galilee operation has achieved its objectives. On the contrary, things are quite different from the picture Israel portrays.

The paper adds: Israel has been defeated politically and militarily in Lebanon and has not achieved the objectives set for its invasion in the summer of 1982 — to destroy villages and cities and demolish houses over the heads of their peaceful civilian owners in a barbaric show-off war, whose prime objective was to kill the willpower of the Arab people in order to instill despair in the heart of the Arab citizen to make him doubt the ability of the Arab nation for confrontation and to consider Al-Sadat's treason and that of the other traitors who followed him as the course of peace.

TISHRIN concludes: The Lebanese national resistance's victory in southern Lebanon is a reaffirmation of our people's rejection of capitulation and surrender. It is a message directed to all those advocating submission to Israel, its agents, and collaborators under the excuse of creating and searching for peace.

TISHRIN on Sidon Withdrawal

JN170726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 17 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Sidon Is Liberated From Occupation," *TISHRIN* says: The Lebanese Army entered Sidon and its environs amid the welcome of citizens who had suffered a great deal from the Zionist invaders who have now withdrawn to new deployment lines.

Contrary to what Israel planned and the rumors it had spread recently, during which it recruited its agents for this purpose, the massacres Rabin expected did not occur and the Lebanese did not fight one another. On the contrary, Sidon citizens unified their ranks and received the legitimate army with popular joy.

Lahd's mercenaries had earlier fled to forward positions and some of them returned to the kinfolk and homeland. Meanwhile, the Lebanese resistance launched more than seven attacks against the invaders and their patrols.

A close view of the overall Arab situation clearly shows that those who imagined that after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and after the signing of the 17 May agreement the Israeli era has commenced and that the Arab era has retreated have committed a definite strategic mistake.

The paper stresses that the lofty stand of the south expresses several eloquent meanings because one-third of agent Lahd's army has collapsed and the withdrawal from the other southern areas will bring about the collapse of the other two-thirds. In other words, what Israel called the army of southern Lebanon and the ministate of free Lebanon did not exist; they were created by the invasion and will be toppled with the completion of the Zionist withdrawal. This is the destiny of all those wagering on Israel, whether in Lebanon or the Arab region.

Concluding, the paper says: It is natural that Israel's withdrawal and the failure of its scheme to trigger seditions will be reflected in the Arab situation, particularly the situation of those capitulationists who are running after the mirage of U.S. solutions and of negotiations with the enemy. The enemy wants completely submissive agents and understands only the language of force and struggle.

Those Palestinians who are today wagering on a U.S.-Israeli solution will reap only disappointment, just like Lahd's mercenaries in steadfast south Lebanon.

'Liberation' of Sidon Viewed

JN210810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Press review]

[Excerpts] In a commentary today, *AL-THAWRAH* affirms that resisting the invaders is the road to liberation. It says: It is natural that the liberation of Sidon should attract large-scale Arab attention, not only because it is a victory for the Lebanese people and resistance to the Zionist enemy, but also because of the effects and imprints that this national and pan-Arab achievement will leave on the future developments in the region and on the Arab-Zionist struggle.

The entire Lebanese people have realized the soundness and credibility of Syria's position and its interest in preserving Lebanon's interests and those of its people. Syria's only concern is to see Lebanon liberated and to see it preserving its unity and independence.

Concluding, the paper says: Stemming from its firm, principled position, Syria is determined to continue its support for Lebanon and its people, as well as its national resistance, until the Zionist invaders are expelled from all the Lebanese territories. This is because the liberation of Sidon and the glorious victory that has been realized must be an incentive for continuing and completing the liberation march and a mode of action to liberate all the occupied Arab territories and drop the approach and tools of surrender from the Arab calculations because the new formula, which was presented through Sidon's liberation, has only one slogan — resisting and confronting the invaders is the only road to liberation.

In a comment under the headline "Epic of Heroism in Sidon," *TISHRIN* says: While celebrating its great victory, the heroic city of Sidon is looking toward the steadfast Damascus of Hafiz al-Asad, which had made available to it all means of steadfastness in order to enable it to present the real alternative to the march of capitulation that began in Camp David and which some have endeavoured to perpetuate through the 17 May agreement. Today, the Husayn-'Arafat alliance wants to present this agreement, which has failed forever, in a new guise through presenting the argument of territory in exchange for peace.

Today, this city is looking to Damascus for encouragement and to pledge to it that it will continue the march behind leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad, who raised the slogan of strategic balance with the Zionist enemy, under which Sidon was able to wage the battle of steadfastness and confrontation of the occupation and which placed this enemy before the only remaining alternative — namely, withdrawal.

The paper says in conclusion: The cry that struggling Sidon raised on the morning of its liberation is now reverberating in the Golan, in the West Bank, and in the Gaza Strip. It is also reverberating in Tyre, Al-Nabatiyah, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, announcing that the only alternative is that of resistance, and that Israel's only alternative is to withdraw unconditionally.

Jordan-PLO Agreement Called 'Gravest Danger'

JN151515 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: Those rallying around the Amman agreement between King Husayn and 'Arafat say that this agreement will be the most important political accomplishment in the interest of the Palestine question as long as it meets some of the United States' conditions and encourages Israel to accept the Reagan plan and its anticipated amendments.

This is the only reason why America's Arab grouping defends and blesses the Amman agreement. Those who bless the agreement forget that all that the United States and Israel had sought to achieve was embodied in this agreement's secret or public clauses. The agreement represents the beginning of serious concessions by the owner of right to the usurper and by the owner of land to the Zionist settler and his U.S. protectors. When the owner of right turns into a haggler who possesses no power, even to support his haggling, the enemy will then be in the stronger position, right will be the victim, and all false slogans will be completely divested of their meaning.

Since its occupation of Palestine, Israel has neither changed its attitude nor abided by any international charter or resolution. It has even rejected the Reagan plan, although this plan responded to Zionist ambitions and hopes. We are not discussing the Amman agreement only because it is the gravest danger posed to Palestine and its people, but also because it is the step long awaited by the United States and Israel to pave the way for a new Israeli war, especially after the U.S. and Israeli allies had become convinced that the Arab ranks were further split and that the defeatist stand would at this time be more responsive to the U.S. and Israeli hopes than it was during the invasion of Lebanon and the siege of Beirut.

We do not think that anyone in this world is convinced that Israel is ready to abandon its expansionist Zionist strategy in order to satisfy a regime or a number of regimes that are subjected to the U.S. decision, which is, in itself, an Israeli decision. As the whole world knows, it is Israel which rejects peace and adopts force as a means to its end. How can Israel then concede what it was created for at a time when the opposite side is not seeking to possess the elements of power which would make it respond to the voice of right and justice?

King Husayn, just like Israel, sought and is still seeking to make the Palestinian hand drop its rifle. He, just like Israel, is allied with the United States and with the hegemony, domination, and aggression for which it aspires, because this king derives all of his regime's power from the U.S. aid extended to it.

Dear listeners, we in this steadfast country know that the United States had adopted its secret decision last April and began to prepare the region for the implementation of this decision. We also know that the United States agreed with Israel and concluded with it treaties and alliances in order to avenge its political and military defeats. We are also quite certain that the Camp David regime in Egypt and its twin in Amman are searching for

excuses that will permit the United States to implement April's secret decision on the pretext of resisting terrorism in the Middle East. Therefore, the Amman agreement was not surprising, because we in this country also know that 'Arafat is not as concerned with Palestine as he is with King Husayn, especially after 'Arafat deliberately struck at Palestinian unity and replaced it with a treasonous alliance with the Jordanian regime and the Camp David regime in Egypt.

There is no doubt that all the pro-U.S. Arab sides are fully convinced of the impossibility of peddling their schemes as long as Syria is holding out and confronting these schemes. It is from this fact that the seriousness of the Amman agreement stems, because it is an agreement to liquidate not only the Palestine question, but also the Arab liberation movement. It is also an agreement to fulfill the U.S. slogan that the Middle East conflict is not one between Israel and the Arabs, but a conflict between regimes, along with Israel, against pan-Arabism, because the unity of the Arabs is what the United States fears most, as this is the Arab method to liberate land and rescue Arab dignity.

'Arafat Group Seen as Serving CIA, U.S. Interests

JN171860 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Feb 85

[From the "Palestine Broadcast" feature by 'Abd al-Rahman Ghunaym: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] What was the slogan the rightwing leadership of 'Arafat raised and was true in raising? At first they raised the slogan of revolution unto victory, but they soon abandoned the revolution and the objective of victory. They also raised the slogan of liberation of all Palestinian national soil from the sea to the river and from Ras al-Naqurah to Rafah. But they retreated from this slogan as well. They then raised the slogan of an independent Palestinian state alongside the Zionist entity in any liberated part of the territory that was occupied in 1967. Although this slogan greatly curtailed the Palestinian people's rights, they also reneged on it and acepted some settlemnt formula on the basis of the Reagan plan and the Camp David accords.

Some time ago, they raised the slogan of cancelling the resolutions and effects of the Jericho conference. They then concluded the confederation deal with the Jordanian regime, thereby consecrating the Jericho resolutions and their effects. They created a big uproar about their adherence to the slogan that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and about their so-called big victory at the Rabat summit when they secured Arab unanimity over this slogan despite King Husayn's opposition. Then they dragged themselves to the king to share with him the representation of the Palestinian people and, in fact, to give him the mandate to represent them.

They madly raised the slogan of independent Palestinian decisionmaking and explained all their crooked ways and conspiracies as an expression of this decisionmaking. But they soon gave up this decisionmaking willingly when they made the Jordanian regime a partner and a spokesman in the expression of this decisionmaking, or rather when they made the decisionmaking of the Jordanian regime, the Camp David regime in Egypt, and of the U.S. Administration their own, claiming that this is independent Palestinian national decisionmaking.

They have thus given the worst examples of a reckless leadership that plays with words, slogans, feelings, and blood, one that is ready at any time to relinquish our most precious national issues. They thus presented their full credentials to the U.S. Administration as a clique that is good only for serving the U.S. Central Intelligence and U.S. imperialist interests in the region, no more and no less.

We ask: Is this role a new one, or is it an indication of this clique's past links? The answer is this: If, as has been said, a member of this clique was trained as an agent in a U.S. Army base several years ago, in the early 1950's, and if the Egyptian authorities under Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir had previoulsy accused several members of this clique of being agents of U.S. Central Intelligence, does their entry into Palestinian action after 1965 mean that they disclaimed their suspicious past associations? Or do their actions now prove that they have tried to exploit the revolution in order to cover up the conspiratorial role entrusted to them by their imperialist overlords?

Peres on Fully Implementing Withdrawal From Lebanon
TA201508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is to fly to Romania early this evening after completing his visit to Italy. The prime minister concluded his official visit to Italy a short while ago with a joint news conference with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi. Our correspondent David Witzthum reports from Italy:

[Begin recording] [Witzthum] At the joint news conference held by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Italy's Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, held a few minutes ago in the Italian prime minister's office, the prime minister replied to my question regarding speeding up the date of the withdrawal from Lebanon:

[Peres] I would rather answer this question in Israel, but in my opinion, the withdrawal plan should be implemented in full. The fact is that there was some coordination with the Lebanese Army regarding Sidon, and at the moment the situation in Sidon is under control. The Cabinet will begin debating the second phase of the withdrawal next week, and of course we will analyze the reasons for or against speeding up the plan or leaving it as is. In general, I prefer to implement the plan decided on without any nervousness or anxiety.

[Witzthum] The news conference concluded the official part of Peres' trip to Italy. At noon, he will have lunch with Italian President Pertini at his residence, and early this evening will fly to Romania, the second and last stop on his European visit. [end recording]

Rabin on 'Heavy-Handed Policy' in Lebanon
TA201024 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Feb 85 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Walter and Menahem Rahat]

[Excerpt] At the end of his tour yesterday of the area in which Colonel Avraham Hido was killed, Defense Minister Rabin decided to implement a heavy-handed policy, including firmer measures by the IDF against the centers of hostility in southern Lebanon. This policy will be implemented very soon. The defense minister instructed the chief of staff to "take all the necessary measures to guard the lives of our soldiers."

It has been decided that the IDF will carry out searches and combing operations and will also summarily apprehend suspects and demolish the houses of terrorists or suspects found to be in possession of weapons. The possibility of effecting a policy of deportations and other punitive measures is being considered.

Rabin Tours Eastern Sector in Lebanon
TA201700 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1652 GMT 20 Feb 85

["Defense Ministry's Spokesman Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 20 Feb (ITIM) — "I am not in favor of carrying things out rashly," Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said today in answer to a question by soldiers on the eastern sector in Lebanon who wanted to know about the expected timetable for the IDF redeployment in that sector.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today toured the Lebanese eastern sector for a few hours, escorted by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, and Major General Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command.

The minister talked with commanders and heard reviews about the deployment of the Syrians and terrorists in that sector, as well as IDF activity.

In the course of his visit the defense minister talked with IDF soldiers at several IDF posts.

Clarifications on Al-Jumayyil Remarks Rejected
TA201720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Christian Lebanese sources today made it clear to the Jerusalem policymakers that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's encouragement of Shi'ite terror against Israel is unacceptable to most Lebanese Christians. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Jerusalem has rejected these clarifications.

Political sources said this evening that immediately upon the return of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to Israel, far-reaching proposals will be submitted to the Cabinet to penalize the Shi'ite elements in southern Lebanon who attack the IDF soldiers. Reference is to proposals for collective punishment, deportation, and other means of punishment.

Likud Knesset Members Seek Faster Pullback
TA201738 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The Likud members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee are now proposing that the committee decide on an immediate withdrawal of the IDF to the Al-Litani line in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent in the Knesset 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the proposal caused differences of opinion, since the Alignment members of the committee want to adhere to the Cabinet decision on withdrawing to the international border in phases. As a result, the Alignment members put off the committee meeting with the defense minister from the end of this week to next Tuesday, to prevent the Likud members from raising their proposal and triggering contacts between the two factions on this issue.

Lebanese Collaborators To Resettle in Israel
TA210802 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Feb 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Qiryat Shemona — A number of Lebanese who cooperated with the IDF have been permitted to enter Israel and settle

here. The Lebanese were afraid of reprisals in the wake of Israeli withdrawals.

Lebanese who had cooperated with the IDF in the Sidon area were informed before the withdrawal last Saturday that it was about to be carried out, so they could leave.

In the past year, some 60 collaborators have been murdered, 20 of them in Sidon.

Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin confirmed to *THE JERUSALEM POST* that Israel had offered sanctuary to those people in the area given back during phase one of the pullback who felt themselves endangered by their past relationship with Israel. Some would move closer to the new border in the area to be controlled by the south Lebanese army, while others have settled in Israel.

IDF Searches Al-Bazuriyah; 2 'Terrorists' Killed

TA201456 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1437 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] During course of the searches carried out by IDF forces in the village of Al-Bazuriyah, military bulldozers demolished a gas station from which gunfire was directed in an incident in which Major Sha'ul Zehavi was killed.

Military sources have told our correspondent Shmu'el Tal that in the future, as well, an iron fist will be used on those suspected of attacks.

Today soldiers from the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] imposed a blockade [seger] on the village of 'Arab Salim and carried out searches there.

[Begin Shmu'el Tal recording] The murderous attacks that have occurred over the past few days against IDF forces, mainly in the western sector of Lebanon, led the IDF to a situation in which it had to react, and indeed last night forces went out to the village of Al-Bazuriyah, east of Tyre, and blocked off the entrances to it.

In the early hours of the morning other forces moved toward the village, accompanied by tanks, and entered it at dawn. The forces carried out house-to-house searches and captured many weapons. The men of the village were collected together in one place and interrogations began. Let us note here that many fled from the place prior to the action, since they apparently feared something was about to happen.

In Al-Bazuriyah an IDF bulldozer demolished the gas station from which gunfire was directed in the incident in which Maj Sha'ul Zehavi was killed. In the course of the searches several terrorists fled and IDF soldiers fired at them. Two terrorists were killed and one was captured.

A blockade [seger] was imposed on other villages in the area and there, too, searches were begun yesterday. Soldiers from the ASL imposed a blockade and carried out combing operations in the village of 'Arab Salim, near Al-Nabatiyah. [end recording]

Al-Bazuriyah Operation Completed

TA201710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The IDF forces ended their searches in the village of Al-Bazuriyah and quiet is now prevailing in the place. During course of the operation, IDF forces killed two terrorists who tried to escape, and another terrorist was captured. A fourth terrorist, who had been wounded, turned himself in to UNIFIL; the IDF enabled a UN force to evacuate him by helicopter.

Our correspondents Shmu'el Tal and Hayim Hecht report that our forces destroyed a gas station in the village, from which shots were fired, as well as two structures where arms were found. The chief of staff and the commander of the Northern Command arrived at the village during the searches and received a briefing.

Shamir on Lebanon, Relations With Egypt

TA200927 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 19 Feb 85

["Text" of address by Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at the 15th International Conference of the World Council of Synagogues on 19 February]

[Excerpt] It was the grave economic situation and other crucial problems that prompted me to initiate the moves for the formation of our government of national unity, which has brought Israel much appreciation in the world and enhanced our good name. It is regarded as a government of a special character; as a very interesting experiment in parliamentary procedure; as a unique development in political affairs. In fact, in my talks with the ministers of other countries, I have often been asked for details because some of them would like to adopt a similar pattern to resolve their own internal political deadlocks and problems.

In essence, this unity government is a full partnership between the two major political blocs and a real sharing of power between them. The secret of our successful negotiations at the time is that we agreed to submerge our differences and to concentrate on those issues on which we are, more or less, united. Therefore, I can say that at present there are no major differences on basic policy between the Likud and Labour in regard to the steps that have to be taken to give fresh impetus to the economy, and certainly not in regard to Lebanon.

What differences exist on the subject of Lebanon are not political but tactical. No one among us opposes the principle of withdrawal of our Army from Lebanon. We do have differences on the manner in which we are to leave Lebanon, and the type of security arrangements necessary to protect the Galilee in future.

My friends, the recent increase in the number of attacks against our forces is, in large measure, due to the competition between the various terrorist organizations to prove which is more active against the Israel forces, and which will take control of the areas that we evacuate. Nevertheless, having taken the decision to withdraw, the Government of Israel has the responsibility to provide security for the Galilee, and to prevent the renewal of the

terrorist threat. I want to believe that we shall find the answer to this problem

Let me now turn to our relationshp with Egypt. All of us in the government agree that the peace treaty between us and Egypt is the cornerstone of the peace process with all our neighbors. It is accepted also by the Government of the United States that if this peace treaty with Egypt is maintained, preserved, and respected, it will increase the chances of peace with other Arab countries.

Therefore, it is a matter for profound regret that the Government of Egypt behaves as though the peace treaty was only an instrument for them to get hold of the Sinai, and that having done so, they could disengage from any further efforts to advance the peace process.

The clearest example of this attitude of the Egyptians is the recall of their ambassador in October 1982. This step was taken as a reaction to the events in Sabra and Shatila. At the time, the Egyptians said that they would not return him until arrangements would be made for our withdrawal from Lebanon. Soon, they added other conditions, namely, the need for negotiations to resolve the problems of Tabah; and the need for progress towards the solution of the Palestine problem. All this is in conflict with the spirit of our peace treaty which imposes obligations on us as well as on Egypt. We have fulfilled our undertakings to the letter, and we expect the Egyptians to do likewise. Their conditions for the return of their ambassador to Israel are quite unacceptable to us, and they should also be a matter of concern to the United States, which is a partner to the peace process. The ambassador has to be here not as a favor, but in accordance with the peace treaty, and no new developments or interpretations can alter that fact.

In our opinion the Egyptians have exaggerated the Tabah question out of all proportion. The whole area under dispute is about 1,000 square meters. The Egyptians claim that Tabah is part of Sinai, while we have evidence to the effect that it is on our side of the border. And so we must work towards an acceptable technical solution. But it is quite wrong for Egypt — after receiving all of Sinai, which is 60,000 square kilometers — to make a principal issue of 1,000 square meters.

We are particularly perturbed over the displays of intensive hostility in the Egyptian media. This continues every day. There are very bitter anti-Israel articles, and even anti-Semitic attacks in the press. This hostile propaganda is also a violation of the peace treaty. It should be the purpose of President Mubarak and the Government of Egypt to foster the spirit of peace and not to encourage hostility. Whenever we lodge complaints we are told that the Egyptian media is free, and that the government cannot interfere.

The Egyptian charge d'affaires in our country is able to appear on television and radio, and to give interviews to the press whenever he wishes to do so, and his views are published far and wide. Yet, it is almost impossible for our ambassador in Egypt to get equal treatment. He has no access to this so-called free media in Egypt, which, as we know, is very much under the influence of the government.

Our government remains faithful to the Camp David accords, and believes it is the only viable framework for resolving the problems on our eastern border with Jordan. At the time of the Camp David talks, Prime Minister Menahem Begin called on King Husayn to enter into negotiations with us. He received no answer from the king. Nor did he respond to my invitations to meet us at the negotiating table. When Prime Minister Peres renewed the call recently, there was still no answer. Apparently, Husayn wants to enjoy the best of all worlds. He wants to maintain good relations with the PLO and with the Arab countries of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. And now he wants the PLO terrorists to be his partners in any negotiating process. I have to tell him, for his own sake, that any intimacy with the PLO is a danger to the whole region. The PLO is not a force for peace. It is the exact opposite. Its philosophy and programme are directed towards conflict, domination, and destruction.

No government of Israel will conduct negotiations with the terrorists, and no government of Israel will agree to the establishment of a second Arab Palestinian state in our region. In accordance with the basic guidelines of our government of national unity, we shall continue to develop Jewish towns and villages in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el, including Judaea and Samaria. It is inconceivable to us that there will be portions of the land closed to Jews. This is a matter of principle, and of great importance to our security.

Anyone who thinks otherwise is mistaken. Our government of national unity was created when it became evident that there were no differences between us in regard to the economy and Lebanon. But Arab governments — and also some Western governments — believed that they would be able to exploit the differences between Labour and Likud on the subject of the borders of Eretz Yisra'el; that this would cause the break-up of our government, or create a crisis that would apply pressure on us in regard to Judaea and Samaria.

Therefore, I consider it my duty to say to all who think along these lines that they are making a big mistake. Lebanon is not Eretz Yisra'el, and there is no chance whatsoever that we would even consider relinquishing control over Judaea and Samaria.

I would like to remind you that it was a Likud Government which signed the original agreement with Lebanon on May 17, 1983, for our withdrawal on the basis of sound security arrangements. The agreement was torpedoed by the Syrians. But the arrangements that were made in Lebanon, then and now, cannot be taken as a precedent for the return to the borders of 1967 with Jordan. Here the problem is one of principle, and of the very existence of the Jewish State.

And therefore, I am able to say that there is today a basic understanding in the unity government on Judaea and Samaria. Our policy is based on our faith in the Camp David accords as the instruments to provide the comprehensive answer to the problems on the eastern border, and also for the Palestinian Arabs. This is also our answer to the recent Arab manoeuvres and the new formulas, which, as everyone now knows, don't offer peace, but are intended to deceive and mislead.

The commitment to Camp David and our readiness to negotiate with Jordan without prior conditions enables the Government of Israel to stand united against these latest Arab manoeuvres and future pressures and threats.

Lastly, my friends, a few words about our economic problems, which are linked to various international political developments. We are now in the final stages of negotiating the free trade area agreement with the United States, which, when it comes into effect, will give a major boost to our export industry. We are also dealing actively with developments in the European Common Market, which is a major area for our agricultural products. We are worried that the imminent entry of Spain and Portugal into the market could have a negative bearing on the status of our products in Europe. We have already had discussions with most governments in Europe, and, in a few days, I shall go there again to hold further talks, in the hope that a formula will be found to protect our exports to the European market.

Egypt's Khalil Comments on Peace Initiatives

TA201027 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Feb 85 p 5

[Report from Cairo by Shefi Gabay]

[Text] The acting chairman of the Egyptian ruling party, Dr Mustafa Khalil, has told *MA'ARIV* that he does not regard Cairo's endorsement of the Husayn-'Arafat accord as a violation of the Camp David accords. He emphasized that Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres himself wanted to conduct negotiations with Husayn outside the framework of Camp David.

Dr Khalil maintains that the pursuit of peace through methods that are mutually agreeable to all the parties involved in the conflict is necessary now. Therefore, Egypt has no objection to pursuing all peace initiatives. All of them lead to a just and comprehensive peace and do not conflict with the Camp David accords.

In reply to a question, Dr Khalil wished to clarify that Egypt no longer opposes an international Middle East peace conference, because such a conference will first of all try to reach a formulation which in principle will be acceptable to all the parties involved in the conflict. Afterwards the parties themselves will conduct the negotiations, and it makes no differences under what auspices.

Egypt Violates Agreements on Trade, Tourism

TA210537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's legal adviser says Egypt is violating most of the agreements signed with Israel after the Camp David accords. Elyaqim Rubinstein says he was referring to agreements on trade, culture, and tourism. Rubinstein is to become a member of the Israeli Embassy staff in Washington later this month.

'Political Sources' on U.S.-USSR Mideast Talks

TA201030 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 20 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Report from Jerusalem by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Soviet involvement in the Middle East entails risks. Whenever progress was achieved in our region, it was achieved without Soviet participation. These remarks were made by political sources in Jerusalem last night in reaction to the Vienna talks between the two superpowers on Middle East issues.

"The Soviet Union supports Syria and the PLO. Any dialogue with it is bound to fail. The Geneva conference and the 1977 agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union have yielded no results," the sources pointed out.

They added that the "Soviet Union is conducting a one-sided policy in the region, and is responsible for the severance of ties with Israel in 1967. Israel will welcome a resumption of relations with the Soviet Union as a result of the dialogue between the superpowers, but this is not to say that Israel will accept an international Middle East conference in return for the resumption of these ties. These are two separate issues."

The inclusion of the Soviet Union in regional policy requires a change in Soviet policy for the Middle East in the direction of reaching a balance between Israel and the Arabs, Jerusalem political sources said last night.

Ministerial Committee Approves State Budget

TA201122 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1048 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs approved the state budget for next year. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that the budget totals $22.4 billion. The budget proposal will be presented at the next Cabinet session for its approval.

Moda'i on Economic Measures, Dialogue With U.S.

TA201853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Report by Harley Braidman]

[Text] I am selling life insurance for the State of Israel. That was the pith of the message of Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i to the insurance agents convention in Jerusalem. Moda'i said there would be no growth for 3 years. The standard of living would go down by 5 percent this year, and then remain stationary for 2 years. Public consumption, too would not rise for 3 years. Only exports would go up in this period, but Israel would gradually return to 6 or 7 percent growth annually, based on her own productivity, and not on American aid.

The finance minister spelled out his next steps. These included the new budget, freezing expenditure, the law of banning excess budget expenditure which he would put forward despite ministerial opposition, a Bank of Israel law limiting the amount of money the government could loan for money printing purposes, applica-

tion of the Steinberg Committee recommendations on tax reform, and the war on tax evasion.

Turning to ties with the United States, Moda'i said in part it was a dialogue between the deaf and the dumb. They knew the mechanism of a normal economy and therefore called for a big devaluation and the end of linkage. Israel did not have a normal economy, and it was difficult to understand its basic data. The Americans had a legitimate interest in their vast investment in Israel and there were common interests, but the only way to solve Israel's problems was through a resumption of growth. Israel could not afford to go to the receivership of the International Monetary Fund, and had to act as her own receiver to prevent the collapse of her reserves, but he was optimistic that if she followed the present modes, Israel would get out of the woods.

Attempt To Settle Khirbat al-Rumaythah Foiled

TA201822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Today another attempt to settle in Khirbat al-Rumaythah was foiled. Several dozen youths, most of them from Jerusalem, went there at dawn to try to establish a building on the spot. Their attempt did not succeed. The Army was waiting there and did not permit them to enter the site.

Members of Qiryat Arba' say they will continue with their attempts to settle in Khirbat al-Rumaythah, so as not to let the issue be dropped from the agenda.

ALGERIA

Saudi Special Envoy Brings Message for President

LD200044 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Shaykh 'Ali ibn al-Muslim, the adviser to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his special envoy, arrived bringing a message to President Chedli Bendjedid.

He was welcomed at the airport by Abdelkader Benkassi, head of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation at the Presidential Palace, and Muhammad Hasan al-Faqi, the Saudi ambassador to Algeria.

President Receives Polish, Saudi Visitors

LD201459 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Algiers, 20 Feb (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, today received Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski, who is currently visiting Algeria. The president also received Shaykh 'Ali ibn Muslim, adviser and envoy of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia. The Saudi envoy handed the president a message from King Fahd.

Polish Foreign Minister, Ibrahimi Hold Talks

LD202049 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Polish Foreign Minister Olszowski had talks with his counterpart, Taleb Ibrahimi. The talks included the two delegations. The two ministers exchanged opinions on major international problems, particularly in Africa and the Arab world. As for bilateral relations, they stressed the will of Algeria and Poland to extend cooperation to other spheres, and the next meeting of the joint commission will be an opportunity for defining new perspectives for cooperation.

The development of exchanges between the Algerian and Polish parliaments was also discussed during Mr Olszowski's audience with president of the National Assembly Bitat this afternoon. The Polish foreign minister was also received by Minister of Information Bachir Rouis.

EL MOUDJAHID Views French Foreign Minister's Visit

PM201437 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 13 Feb 85 p 3

[Kheiredine Ameyar report: "Useful Contacts"]

[Text] There was feverish activity at Houari Boumediene International Airport in Algiers yesterday, to put it mildly. Late in the afternoon French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas left, followed shortly afterward the Ghanaian President Rawlings, who left the capital a mere half-hour before the arrival of Jordan's King Husayn. This may have provided an opportunity for the French press accompanying Roland Dumas to check the statements on his visit made earlier that day to the French ambassador's residence. In the former European affairs minister's view, a "trip" to Algiers is inevitable for any French or foreign official wishing to test the situation in the region. It was, therefore, Mr Dumas' first visit as the new external relations minister but, as he pointed out, not the first time he has made the trip. Very close to President Francois Mitterrand, he was in the presidential delegation whose visit to Algiers, together with President Bendjedid's visit to Paris, undoubtedly made it possible to place relations between the two countries back on the appropriate level.

Nobody in the two delegations' entourage expected anything "new" for two reasons: first, the two countries' foreign policies are laid down at the highest, presidential, level and cannot depart from the framework drawn for them, which is well-known . Second, by paying a brief call on Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, his counterpart, Roland Dumas intended this to be primarily a courtesy visit. It was a courtesy visit but a visit nonetheless, with all the usual discussions, exchanges of views, and efforts aimed primarily at imparting new dynamism to relations being continued in the different economic and social commissions set up after the meeting between the two countries' heads of state.

Bilateral relations probably occupied a considerable place in the talks between Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his French counterpart. Trade between the two countries has increased constantly in the past few years and seems to have reached "a very adequate level" according to Mr Dumas, who welcomed Algeria's understanding in the sphere of trade balance. Moreover, our country thinks that this balance is still mutually beneficial economically and not unilaterally detrimental. The many other subjects examined by the two delegations were principally those on which there are long-standing disputes and which the two presidents would like settled.

For instance, they discussed aspects of the transfer of funds to France and property sales that have not been completed. Finally, the most important aspect of bilateral relations discussed seems to have been the national archives that France has promised to return to our country. The French side informed the Algerian authorities that the delay is connected more with technical constraints encountered by the French culture ministry than with other consideraztions. Furthermore, 58 "boxes" of archives are to due to be received by Algeria very soon.

The two delegations obviously devoted a large part of this short visit to reviewing major international problems: the Middle East, the Gulf, and Africa, but especially the situation prevailing in the region in light of developments over the past few months. The Algerians listened to Dumas explaining his government's viewpoint while reaffirming our country's traditional positions, which stem from our principles and are, consequently, invariable; this is especially true since there is apparently no indication that new factors have emerged that would have required not a reexamination of the Algerian viewpoint — Algeria's position has been frequently reaffirmed by the country's top officials and is completely unambiguous — but which could have prompted a review of the best way to bring about peace and stability. The foreign journalists present on this occasion became caught up in conjectures about the possibility of a Maghreb summit, to which

the international press refers from time to time. In this connection the French external relations minister said that he had been informed by Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi of the various contacts that have taken place at Maghreb level, while an Algerian source said that it is undoubtedly too soon to talk of a summit.

Algeria, these circles point out, has never concealed the importance it attaches to anything that can bring the region's peoples and states closer together, but there must be an objective basis for this. It is obvious, and Algeria has stated this in all circumstances and just recently, that the possibility of holding a summit can only be considered if there is also a possibility of success. In the present situation a summit that did not discuss the West Sahara issue and in which the Saharan authorities were not involved in some form or another would have no use other than as a meeting for its own sake.

Given the situation, the journalists who "covered" this visit by Roland Dumas all think that it was useful in that it is always important, in the diplomatic sphere, for officials to keep each other informed, but that there is no reason to prejudge its motives and aims.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Lebanon's Junblatt

LD201448 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] The brother leader of the revolution received Brother Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party and leader of the National Democratic Front in Lebanon.

SFRY's Culafic Signs Security Accord, Ends Visit

LD201514 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A protocol of cooperation in security and justice was signed this morning by the Secretariat of the General People's Committee for Justice in the Jamahiriyah and the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs in Yugoslavia within the context of cooperation between the two friendly countries. It was signed by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice and on the Yugoslav side by Dobroslav Culafic, member of the Federal Executive Council and federal secretary for internal affairs. The protocol provides for the consolidation of cooperation in justice and security, the exchange of visits and the organizing of training courses.

Dobroslav Culafic expressed satisfaction at the results of his visit to the Jamahiriyah and said after the signing ceremony that the visit has given a new strong impetus for strengthening the ties of friendship and developing bilateral relations between the two friendly people. Finally he praised the great achievements and changes achieved by the people of the Jamahiriyah in various spheres owing to the Great al-Fatih Revolution.

Dobroslav Culafic left Tripoli after a few days' visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Romanian Foreign Trade Minister Arrives

LD210913 Tripoli JANA in English 0814 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 1, February 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr Vasile Pungan the Romanian minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Ghanaian Cooperation Committee Meets 17-19 Feb

LD201519 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli 20 Feb (JANA) — A press statement has been issued today in Tripoli and Accra on the results of the Libyan Arab-Ghanaian committee's meeting which said:

The Libyan Arab-Ghanaian Joint Committee for Cooperation held its first meeting in Tripoli 17-19 February 1985. The 15-member Ghanaian delegation was led by Retired Captain Kojo Tsikata, the private advisor of the Provisional Defense Council and the personal envoy of Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings, who was accompanied by Ghanaian Foreign Affairs Minister Asamoah Obed, while the Libyan Arab side was led by Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and expressed their deep satisfaction with the level reached by relations and cooperation between their coutnries. They reaffirmed their eagerness to continue and consolidate their fraternal relations in all fields in a manner serving the aspirations of both fraternal people and the two revolutionary leaderships.

The two sides appreciated the efforts of the joint committee to realize economic solidarity between the two countries in the economic, cultural, and information spheres. In this connection, the ratification instruments for the cultural and technical agreement and the agreement on joint companies were exchanged. The agenda of the joint committee's meeting was signed.

Views were exchanged on international, Africa, and Arab issues, as the two sides affirmed their support for the Palestinians, and the struggle of the people of southern Africa and their determination to end the racist regimes.

The two sides expressed the cohesion and unity of the two revolutions in Ghana and the Jamahiriyah, again reaffirming their stance to confront the dangers threatening the revolutionary force in Africa. The two sides condemned the military exercises, the economic blockade, and the imperialist interventions against African countries.

During the visit, the brother leader of the Great 1 September Revolution received the leader of the Ghanaian delegation who conveyed to him the greetings and solidarity of his brother Jerry Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional Defense Council in Ghana. The Ghanaian delegation expressed their profound thanks and gratitude for the warm fraternal reception they received during the visit.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Saudi Special Envoy

LD210047 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text]On Tuesday at the royal palace in Marrakesh, His Majesty King Hassan II received 'Ali ibn Muslim, the special adviser of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the monarch of Saudi Arabia. During this meeting, which lasted over 1 hour, the Saudi envoy conveyed to King Hassan II a verbal message from King Fahd connected with bilateral relations and with the official visit paid recently by the Saudi monarch to the United States.

France's Dumas Comments on Talks in Morocco

PM201253 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French 17 Feb 85 pp 1,2

[MAP dispatch: "Morocco-France: Preferential Partners"]

[Excerpts] Marrakesh, February — "I was received by His Majesty King Hassan II for around 90 minutes. During this time I spoke with the king about relations between Morocco and France, and the region's problems; we also noted with pleasure that France and Morocco are preferential partners in international relations," Roland Dumas said in Marrakesh on Saturday [16 February].

During a press conference shortly before departing after a 24-hour visit to Morocco, the French external relations minister said that it was necessary to extend these good relations and ensure that the excellent atmosphere prevailing between the two countries is maintained and even improved as far as possible.

I was very aware, he said, of the honor his majesty the king did me in having a very detailed discussion with me on world problems.

With regard to international questions, the French external relations minister stressed that Morocco is a great country which has responsibilities in the international arena, in the Arab world, and in the world in general. In this connection, he reviewed Middle East problems with Moroccan officials, including the centers of tension in the Gulf and Lebanon.

"We exchanged views on the recent agreement between King Husayn and Chairman 'Arafat and I reported on my various visits, especially to New York and Washington."

With regard to contacts on the holding of a Maghreb summit, the French external relations minister replied: "That is a matter concerning the Maghreb countries, and France has economic, cultural, and political interests in this region of the world. France has excellent relations with Morocco. It has very good relations with Algeria and Tunisia, and it also has fruitful and friendly contacts with Mauritania. It is natural, therefore, for France to seek information on the development of the situation in this region of the world, and that is what I have done.

"You just have to say that it is a Maghreb summit and it follows that it essentially and primarily concerns the Maghreb countries."

Asked to comment on the report from a Tunisian source that a Maghreb summit could be held in Tunis, the French external relations minister said: "I always take reports in the press seriously. Until there is evidence to the contrary, I must say that I think it is an event that will take place."

With regard to Ceuta and Melilla, the French external relations minister said that this question was not raised during his talks. It is, he said, a problem concerning two friendly countries: Morocco and Spain. "We did not discuss this question. We had enough subjects on the agenda relating to Moroccan-French relations."

With regard to relations between France and South Africa, the French external relations minister said that he met [South African Foreign Minister] Botha because he was in Paris and his predecessor had decided that Botha would be received if he visited France. "We have diplomatic relations with that country, and we have a large amount of trade; I felt it my duty to meet with him, which he had desired, if only to reiterate in France to the South African foreign minister France's position in that region of the world. In fact, I reaffirmed that we are fiercely opposed to apartheid and want a change in relations in that country, especially regarding Mozambique and Namibia [as published]; finally, it enabled me once again to emphatically request the release of [ANC Chairman] Mr Mandela, who was arrested 20 years ago."

AL MAG REB Claims Algeria Blocks Regional Peace

LD201330 Rabat MAP in English 1254 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Rabat, Feb 20 (MAP) — Evoking the recent declarations of the Tunisian foreign affairs minister, M. Beji Caid Essebsi, on "encouraging contacts" aimed at convening a Maghreban summit of five countries in the region and the creation of a Maghreban common market, the Moroccan daily *AL-MAGHRIB* of the National Rally of Independent (centrist) reads in its Wednesday release: "This optimism is not, unfortunately, always shared" since "Algerian leaders have not ceased multiplying destabilizing and revealing moves and declarations about the genuine schemes of Algiers."

The daily recalled the Algerian refusal to participate in any Maghreban summit where their henchmen were not "one way or the other" represented, and how the Algerian head of state himself received the so-called president of the "SDAR," the notorious mercenary Mohamed Abdelaziz, at the very moment when the Tunisian foreign affairs minister was affirming that inter-Maghreban contacts were "encouraging."

"Every thing points to the fact that the Algerian stand has not changed and Algiers keeps blocking any effort aimed at restoring peace and entente in the region. It is obvious that Algeria does not at all intend to contribute to any improvement in inter-Maghreban relations," adds the daily.

AL-MAGHRIB carries on "our brothers in the east have to grasp and be persuaded of these basic truths: Morocco will never renounce an inch of its national territory and the Maghreb will never to without Morocco just as it can not be without one of more of its components Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya."[sentence as published]

The daily deems "it is high time Algiers stopped sabotaging goodwill and praise-worthy intiatives aimed at putting back the Maghreban train on the rails. Otherwise, Algeria will have to assume responsibility for its obstructive policies before history and the Maghreban peoples which aspire to unity, concord and cooperation, these aspirations," concludes *AL-MAGHRIB*, "have been seriously jeopardized for some years now by Algiers alone."

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Speaks on Arab League, Egypt

GF201424 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 16 Feb 85 p 12

[Dispatch from Khartoum]

[Text] The Sudanese foreign minister has affirmed Sudan's desire to enrich the experience of joint Arab work through positive and active participation in the work of the Arab League and its specialized organizations. He pointed out that Sudan has repeatedly called for the need to amend the Arab League charter so that it will keep abreast with new developments and to apply the majority principle in making Arab League resolutions so that they will be more in keeping with the events of today's world.

He said that Sudan believes Egypt's return to the ranks of the Arab world constitutes a basic element in restoring Arab solidarity in view of Egypt's political, human, and historical weight. He expressed Sudan's great relief at the restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Jordan, and said that this will be an introduction to similar steps by other Arab countries. He emphasized that Sudan will continue its efforts to urge friends to achieve this goal.

On the African level, the minister said that Sudan is aware of the historic and cultural role that is imposed upon it by its strategic location in the continent. He noted Sudan's efforts to adopt a policy of good-neighborliness with adjacent countries. He reviewed what has been done in this respect recently with Uganda and Central Africa and Sudan's efforts to develop its relations with these countries, and with countries having mutual interests, through ministerial committees aimed at formulating relations of bilateral, trilateral, and regional cooperation, and developing commercial, economic, and cultural relations.

Information Minister Says Situation Calm in South

NC201430 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (MENA) — Sudanese Minister of Information 'Ali Shammu asserted that the situation in southern Sudan is now calm and that the Armed Forces control all positions. In a statement to a MENA correspondent in Khartoum, Shammu affirmed that all the reports by Western news media on the fall or seige of the city of Juba are groundless. He said that along with his affirmation he would like to mention evidence by a BBC correspondent who went to the south to shoot a film on civilization in Sudan. The correspondent found life in Juba proceeding normally and he left Juba for Numayl on the Sudanese-Ugandan border to visit certain positions.

Shammu added: We do not deny that we have security problems in the south, but the public soon discovers the exaggeration which causes media that carry false reports to lose credibility. He pointed out that disputes began among the rebels in the south several months ago because of differences over goals and tribal affiliations. He emphasized that the problems in the south can be solved within the framework of a unified Sudan through President Numayri's proposals and democratic institutions. He said that the southerners have the right to choose what they want. He also said that the rebels in the south receive aid regularly as well as modern weapons that are better than Sudan's weapons.

Assembly Member Views Khartoum University Closure

JN201522 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (SUNA) — Under the provisions of Article 41 of the law organizing the work of the People's Assembly, Mrs Thurayya 'Uthman Salih, a member of the assembly, submitted an urgent topic regarding what has recently happened at Khartoum University and the factors that led to its closure.

The assembly member also asked the minister of education and guidance to explain to the esteemed assembly, the Sudanese people, and to Sudanese public opinion what is actually taking place there and the measures the ministry will take to prevent any repetition of what has happened.

The speaker of the People's Assembly referred this urgent topic to the assembly's rapporteur to take the necessary measures.

SPLA Radio Cites Numayri's War Cost, Critics

EA202058 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] President Field Marshal Ja'far Muhammad Numayri confided to Husni Mubarak of Egypt in their Aswan meeting last Friday, 17 February [as heard] 1985, that the war against SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] is costing the regime 3.5 million Sudanese pounds daily. This amounts to 1.05 billion Sudanese pounds every month. This does not include casualties on both sides and loss of property.

According to the reports reaching Radio SPLA from Khartoum, President Numayri pensioned off 53 officers in the Sudanese Army, allegedly that they were redundunt and corrupt. However, the reason why Numayri pensioned them off was that they questioned the regime's absurd policy to wage war against SPLA-SPLM, [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] which, according to these officers, is a just war aimed to liberate the oppressed masses of the Sudan.

SPLA Radio Claims Troops Sent To Kill Villagers

EA201819 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] High Command has learned from a reliable source from Khartoum that the regime of Ja'far Muhammad Numayri is bent on eliminating the local population in Bentiu. In pursuit of this scheme, Battalion 429 left Khartoum on Friday, 17th February for Bentiu. According to the report, Battalion 429 has been given orders to clear Bentiu area of any SPLA units.

Commenting on this, a spokesman for the SPLA High Command said that the mission of Battalion 429 was not to look for SPLA forces, but to massacre innocent civilians. In this regard, he advised the local population of Bentiu to defend themselves against any barbaric attempts by the regime to eliminate them. He further went on to ask all the villagers and anybody else in Bentiu to report to the nearest SPLA unit and fight alongside with SPLA forces against this inhuman attempt by the regime.

SPLA Radio Claims Attacks on Army Garrisons

EA202053 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] According to Radio SPLA correspondents accompanying SPLA forces in central Upper Nile operational zone, a task force of elements of 104-105 and Hadid Battalions commanded by Captain Chuol (Chuang) and First Lieutenant David Riak conducted a series of successful raids into Malwal-(Gaoz) garrison. The raids were carried out on 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th of February and today, 20th, respectively. Malwal-(Gaoz) garrison has been under siege since 14th February 1985.

In a related operation, SPLA paratroopers and commando units commanded by First Lieutenant Daniel (Ayuwal) successfully shelled and raided Akobo army garrison on 18th February 1985.

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Discusses Maghreb, Students, Iran

PM201507 London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Feb 85 pp 10-12

[Interview with Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali by Khaldun al-Sham'ah in Tunis — date not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-DUSTUR*: What is the latest on the consultations regarding the much-publicized aim of convening a summit conference of Arab Maghreb states, in which Tunisian diplomacy is playing a prominent part?

Mzali: I must first say that for the past 2 years Tunisia has been trying to unite the ranks of the Arab Maghreb states in the belief that a greater Arab Maghreb would be a source of strength for this region and a step toward Arab unity.

I can state now that all the leaders of this area, that is, His Majesty King Hassan II, the Algerian president, the Mauritanian president, and the Libyan leader, agree that this summit should be held in Tunis under the chairmanship of the dean of presidents and great struggler Habib Bourguiba. The summit will apparently be held in the coming weeks. Having obtained the agreement of the region's leaders to attend, we will now begin making the practical arrangments for the conference.

AL-DUSTUR: Which states will attend the summit?

Mzali: Five states will attend; they are Morocco, Mauritania, Libya, Algeria, and Tunisia.

AL-DUSTUR: Do you think that this will prevent polarization in the region?

Mzali: That is what we will try to avoid, because polarization leads to confrontation.

AL-DUSTUR: Will the agenda include some of the chronic problems?

Mzali: It has been agreed not to have an agenda on the grounds that each king or president has a right to raise any issue he likes.

AL-DUSTUR: Will the Sahara issue be discussed?

Mzali: Of course. Since there is such an issue, I expect that somebody will raise it.

AL-DUSTUR: We have read some reports about certain elements sent to liquidate the Palestinian resistence and heard also that they gave themselves up and passed information to the resistance security organs. Could you tell us something about this matter?

Mzali: That is not true. I have read such reports in the press and asked the responsible Tunisian authorities about them. They denied the reports.

AL-DUSTUR: The Tunisian university incidents have already been explained by Tunisian officials, but there is a need for further explanation, particularly because the conflicting groups in the Tunisian university belong to the opposition, not the ruling Destourian Party, whose representatives in the university did not contribute to the disturbances.

Mzali: Let me first mention a few facts. The university with its 40,000 students, big buildings, unusual geographical structure, high-quality courses and professors, and respectable degrees, would not have been possible had President Bourguiba not decided in 1958 to open the schools to every male and female Tunisian.

The Tunisian university is independent educationally, organizationally, and in matters of security. Everything in the law confirms this independence. I have been education minister three times, and I do not ever recall that any minister interfered with the education system, syllabi, representation, or examinations.

We respect student representation. I said this when I became prime minister. Today I confirm that the government is prepared to recognize a freely and democratically elected student organi-

zation or organizations. The only requirement is that there should be equality because there are, particularly this year, student minorities belonging to the extreme left and the extreme right. They, especially the leftists, want to turn the university into a ground for undermining the regime. When the government remained cool, upheld democracy, and renewed its confidence in the elected bodies and the deans, this minority exploited the calm and open atmosphere and the absence of police by escalating their demands and causing disturbances, to the point where the teachers and most of the students feared for their future and the future of their education if the anarchy continued at that rate.

In some of the colleges — and I am saying this for the benefit of *AL-DUSTUR* readers — small minorities are behind the disturbances. Their aim is to give the press the impression that the majority of students were involved in the movement . The truth is that the silent majority fears those terrorists and their sharp tongues.

A number of students, who belong to the Destourian Party or are independent, were brought to trial by these minorities in front of their colleagues. The minorities beat them up after shaving their heads. The dean and 10 of his colleagues stormed the meeting to release a student who was being beaten up and having his head shaved, but the terrorists assaulted the dean and his colleagues. As a result, the teachers met and issued a statement to the press, both government and opposition, asserting that the situation could not continue. A few days earlier the minority groups had entered the examination halls and prevented students from taking their exams.

That is the story of the university. I would have liked the Tunisian university to be a microcosm of Tunisian society in which democracy could be tested; all views, sentiments, and ideologies coexist; and tolerance prevail, because how can there be democracy in any university or society if there is no tolerance? Unfortunately, there are small extremist groups in the university. That is the painful phenomenon. I believe the day will come when the silent majority will find the will to defend itself and its future. The problem is not the differences of opinion as such but the attempts to impose an opinion with fists and razor blades.

AL-DUSTUR: What is the government's attitude to the students' federation?

Mzali: We are willing to contribute to or rather help in free elections and are prepared to recognize any democratically elected group whatever its political views. We have applied this principle to the Tunisian General Federation of Labor. That denotes a firm conviction on this matter. It has enabled the workers, who are a major force in the country, thank God, to elect their regional and national leaders with complete freedom. They now enjoy independence. Why should we not do for the students what we have done for the workers? The minorities, however, do not want that, because they want to act without legitimacy, and the election of a student federation would give them legitimacy.

AL-DUSTUR: Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Shaykh ol-Eslam visited Tunisia a few days ago. Did he request the reopening of the Iranian Embassy in Tunisia?

Mzali: The deputy foreign minister contacted the Tunisian minister of state for foreign affairs and suggested normalization of relations, reopening of the embassy, et cetera.

AL-DUSTUR: What is the Tunisian Government's decision on this matter?

Mzali: We are still considering the matter and have taken note of Iran's willingness to restore relations to their previous state.

AL-DUSTUR: Do you believe that a resumption of relations with Iran could result in Tunisia's playing a part in ending the Iraq-Iran war?

Mzali: We would like to activate relations with Iran because Iran is an Islamic state, but we do not want the Iranian regime to interfere in Tunisian spiritual and Islamic affairs; we want Iran to leave these things to the Tunisian people. If Iran accepts this, then we will welcome the restoration of relations , and that will perhaps help in bridging the gap between the views of the brothers. However, we have not reached that stage yet and the problem with Iran still exists.

AL-DUSTUR: What about the Gulf war? Is there a part for Tunisia to play in ending the bloodshed?

Mzali: We play a part within the framework of the Arab, Islamic, and African states, but we have no direct contact with the Iranian Government. If the Iranians accept noninterference in our internal affairs, then we will be willing to deal with them.

Mzali Receives Saudi Envoy With Message From Fahd

LD202227 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Premier Mohamed Mzali this evening received Shaykh 'Ali ibn Muslim, the special envoy of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz to Tunisian president Habib Bourguiba, and received from him King Fahd's message to President Bourguiba on the visit he made recently to the United States. The special envoy stressed that this visit produced positive results particularly in connection with U.S. backing of the Fes summit resolutions. The meeting was attended by the Saudi ambassador to Tunisia, Abbas Fa'iq Qazawl.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Holds Talks With PDRY Trade Minister

EA201251 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, received and held talks today with Comrade Ahmad 'Ubayd Al-Fadli, PDRY trade and supply minister. During the occasion, Comrade Ahmad 'Ubayd briefed our comrade revolutionary leader on bilateral relations in various sectors and the ongoing fifth Ethiopian-PDRY economic, scientific, technical, and trade joint commission meeting. The comrade secretary general expressed his strong belief that their friendship and solidarity will be further strengthened, and he discussed African and international issues with Comrade Ahmad 'Ubayd.

Present during the ceremony, held at the WPE Central Committee private office of Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, were Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, WPE Central Committee member and secretary; Comrade Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member and minister of foreign trade, and Comrade ('Abd al-Awai Hasan), PDRY charge d'affaires in revolutionary Ethiopia.

Peasants Association Delegation Returns From Cuba

EA210605 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The All-Ethiopia Peasants Association delegation, led by Comrade Abdela Sonesa, its chairman and WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] Central Committee Member, yesterday returned to Addis Ababa after a 13-day working tour of Cuba at the invitation of the Cuban Peasants Association. During its stay in Cuba, the delegation inspected the activities of producers cooperatives in four Cuban regions and exchanged experiences through discussions with administrative heads. The delegation also signed a 2-year friendship and solidarity agreement with the Cuban Peasants Association providing for the exchange of delegations and strengthening their anti-imperialist stand.

Ambassadorial, Ministerial Promotions Announced

EA202134 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The Provisional Military Administrative Council today issued the following promotions:

1. Comrade Shimeles Adugna, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee member and childrens commissioner, as ambassador to a foreign country.

2. Comrade Nadew Zekarias, WPE Central Committee member, as ambassador to a foreign country.

3. Comrade Fisseha Geda, WPE Central Committee member and tourism commissioner, as ambassador to a foreign country.

4. Comrade Abebe Kebede, WPE Central Committee member and minister of domestic trade, as ambassador to a foreign country.

5. Comrade Nersha Wedajo, head of planning of the eastern Ethiopia sector with the rank of commissioner, as minister of the ministry of domestic trade.

6. Comrade Abd Almannan Ahmed, deputy minister of the Ministry of Education as ambassador to a foreign country.

7. Comrade Namo Bahta, deputy minister of the Ministry of Industry, as head of planning of the central Ethiopia sector with the rank of commissioner.

8. Comrade Mendaye Deresa as ambassador to a foreign country.

9. Comrade Filipos Wolde Mariam as ambassador to a foreign country.

SOMALIA

Spokesman Condemns Occupation by Ethiopian Troops

EA201813 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A Somali Foreign Ministry spokesman asserted today that the policies of the ruling clique in Addis Ababa now are no different from the traditional policies of previous regimes and are as hypocritical and misleading as those of the archaic regimes. Its attempts to confuse world public opinion are aimed at fulfilling its colonialist designs and interests.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman went on to say that in an interview with BBC correspondent Michael Wooldridge on 11 February, the Addis regime's foreign minister, Goshu Wolde, confirmed the occupation of two areas within Somalia by Ethiopian troops. The spokesman said that the retractions by this regime are clearly manifested in the denials by the Abyssinian Foreign Ministry on 18 February and its claims that Ethiopian troops had at no time occupied Somali territory. [sentence as heard]

The spokesman added that this is further indication of rifts within that regime. The regime, the spokesman said, can no longer deceive the world today but can only cheat itself, because the world is very aware of that regime's traditional expansionism, its aggressive policy, and the fact that it has been occupying Balamballe and Goldogob, in central Somalia, since July 1982. It continues to occupy these areas in contravention of the recognized charters and principles of the OAU and the UN.

Radio Halgan: Commandos Ambush Government Troops
EA202349 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] On 12 February, commando units from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] wing of the Somali opposition forces ambushed a military vehicle of loyalist Barre troops on the highway linking southern Somalia with northern Somalia. In their ambush, the commando units destroyed a Toyota vehicle No 4455 belonging to the 3d Brigade of the 20th Division of the Barre Army, killing two senior officers and five men. The officers and men were killed when they disobeyed orders.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Meets Congo Foreign Minister, Discusses Chad
EA210101 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Dodoma — The OAU chairman, Mwalimu Nyerere, has commended President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the People's Republic of the Congo for his efforts to find a solution to the crisis in Chad. Mwalimu said President Nguesso was carrying out the task in response to a duty vested in him by the OAU during its meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, last year. The OAU chairman voiced the commendation when he received a special message from President Nguesso of the Congo delivered by the Congolese minister for foreign affairs and cooperation, Ndugu Antoine Ndinga-Oba.

President Nyerere said that a genuine solution to the crisis in Chad would only be achieved when the warring leaders agreed to sit down together to seek a solution and peace for their country. He said if the warring parties in Chad met and arrived at a solution, the OAU would be in a stronger position to ask France and Libya to withdraw their forces from Chad.

In addition to the question of Chad, the OAU chairman and the Congolese minister discussed the major problems facing Africa, particularly the issue of southern Africa.

The discussions, held at the residence of the Dodoma regional commissioner, were also attended by the foreign minister, Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa, and other government officials.

Party NEC Removes Member; CCM-CPC Ties Lauded
EA201923 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Dodoma: The National Executive Committee [NEC] has removed from its leadership NEC member Brigadier (Ramadhani Haji Faki) for his involvement in polluting the political atmosphere in Tanzania's islands during his tenure as Zanzibar's chief minister. The NEC meeting opened this afternoon following the conclusion of its seminar, which started in Dodoma on Monday.

A statement issued in Dodoma said that during its morning session, the seminar discussed in detail the provision of adequate facilities to the mass media to help in the task of political propagation. Discussing a paper on propagation of the party's policy of socialism and self-reliance, NEC members stressed the importance of using artistic troupes and the mass media in this respect.

The NEC said it is satisfied with the current state of Tanzanian-Chinese relations and cooperation, adding that they are a living example of South-South cooperation. A statement issued in Dodoma today to mark the 20th anniversary of friendship and cooperation beween the two countries said the NEC greatly values this friendship and cooperation. It described friendship and cooperation as an important weapon in efforts to consolidate our independence. The statement went on to say that the relations are a weapon for intensifying the struggle to rid Africa of colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, and racism. The NEC also lauded relations between Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM] and the Communist Party of China which, it said, are growing day by day.

The NEC meeting will continue tomorrow morning.

CHAD

Bardai Reports Fighting in South; Minister Missing

AB202146 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Summary] "Fighting is raging in the southern part of the country. According to a dispatch sent in by our military correspondent, a very violent clash took place on the (Ekodo II-Sakafi-Bobo) district road between the intrepid commandos of (Bourmatoro) and the homeless FAN combatants." The enemy soldiers, who were routed, abandoned a (Venera) car and a 404 van which "was carrying a so-called ministerial delegation led by traitor Brahim Idio, charged with internal affairs. The latter has been reported missing. As far as his marabout [medicineman], a certain Mr (Blekou Niangous), is concerned, he died from his wounds at the headquarters of the commandos" of the National Liberation Army. "The FAN fugitives left behind two other vehicles and dozens" of machineguns. This has given cause to much worry among the reactionary forces. "According to our military correspondent, (?Habre) has ordered his soldiers to recover the heavy weapons and the body of (Blekou Niangous). To this end, (?265) men have been dispatched" on board an American transport aircraft.

Spokesman Denies Interior Minister Killed

AB211350 Paris AFP in English 1327 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Ndjamena, Feb 21 (AFP) — Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat today "categorically" denied a report by the Libyan news agency JANA that Chad's interior minister Brahim Idio had been killed in fighting in the south of the country. Mr Mahamat said the report was typical of JANA, which he called "an expert liar."

JANA had reported earlier today that the interior minister had died on January 31 during a battle between government troops and rebel forces. The agency quoted Radio Bardai, mouthpiece of the Libyan-backed Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT), which still controls northern Chad. The report said the battle took place in the Bodo region and that the government side suffered heavy losses in the fighting.

Mr Mahamat said Mr Idio had in fact been through Ndjamena earlier this month and had since left for the town of Doba, in the southern province of eastern Logone Province.

Bardai Says Army Kills 23 Civilians in South

AB202213 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Summary] "In the Sahr region, the enemy continues to cowardly massacre the unarmed civilian population." In this connection, the criminal elements raided a village 17 km from Sahr and committed "unprecedentedly cruel acts. After gathering the people at 0500, they opened fire on the peaceful citizens. As a result of their heinous crime, 23 persons were killed and another 19 seriously wounded.

"In view of this act, the National Liberation Army commandos appeal to farmers in other localities to avoid falling victim to such macabre traps laid by the executors of Habre's stick and carrot policy."

ZAIRE

Border Commission Meeting Held With Zambia

AB191846 Dakar PANA in French 1807 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 19 Feb (AZAP/PANA) — The deliberations of the Zaire-Zambia special commission on border questions ended on Sunday in Lubumbashi, Shaba Province.

The meeting was jointly presided over by Charles Maniema, Zambian assistant public prosecutor, and Ambassador Lunda Bulula, secretary general of the Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC). The deliberations, which took place 4-17 February, were marked by the signing of a written report and the initialing of a draft treaty. The recommendations reached at the deliberations will be submitted for approval to Presidents Mobutu of Zaire and Kuanda of Zambia.

Defense Secretary on U.S. Relations, Security

AB202015 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1646 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Feb (AZAP) — U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense William H. Taft and his wife left Kinshasa today at 1000 for Kenya following a 3-day visit to Zaire. They were seen off by General Likulia, secretary of state for national defense and territorial security, and his wife, as well as by the U.S. ambassador to Zaire and Zairian military and political personalities.

Replying to a journalist who asked if he attained his objectives and what impressions he had formed about the Zairian Armed Forces [FAZ], Mr Taft expressed his "complete satisfaction" with the visit. He said this visit was a rich experience for him and it provided him with the opportunity to observe the FAZ soldiers and to hold talks with the MPR founder and with Gen Likulia on the cooperation between Zaire and the United States. "I was very much impressed by the beauty of your country, its highly able and competent people and their spirit of unity. I am optimistic about the future of the country and I think my visit will be beneficial to the relations between our two countries," he said in conclusion.

The U.S. deputy secretary of defense and his wife were hosted at a banquet last night at the OAU center's restaurant by Gen Likulia and his wife.

In his address, Gen Likulia stated that Field Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, who is in charge of the Department of Defense and the security of the national territory and whom he had the opportunity to represent, was "particularly concerned about the quality and the importance of the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the United States and Zaire. In this regard, the visit of the U.S. deputy secretary of defense to Zaire

is proof not only of the sincerity of an exemplary and long-standing cooperation as well as the particularly excellent relations existing between us, but also a demonstration of the loyalty and sympathy of our friendship and the constant esteem existing between us, of which the people of Zaire are aware. They also appreciate the extent of this friendship," Gen Likulia added.

The United States, he further stated, occupies an important place among Zaire's friends in difficult moments.

To substantiate this, the deputy secretary of defense enumerated all the difficult situations in which Zaire found itself and in which the United States came to its aid.

Talking about the security of Zaire, Gen Likulia stressed that socio-cultural progress made in the 20th century calls for the uniform mobilization of the various resources of all countries. He then talked about conflicts which oblige governments to attach much attention to the problems of security of peoples, their properties, and their national territories. While some countries use force to settle such problems, Zaire prefers to use dialogue and permanent discussions with its neighbors and other countries of the world whenever necessary, Gen Likulia stated. The efficient means of security which we are requesting from our partners, Gen Likulia went on, do not mean that we intend to wage war; they are meant to ensure our protection within our borders.

Finally, Gen Likulia expressed the hope that the visit of the American deputy secretary of defense will enable a rational and deep analysis of the set priority objectives of Zaire's defense and security strategy.

For his part, William H. Taft expressed pride for the constant American aid and assistance to Zaire. This proves, he pointed out, that "we are good and loyal friends on whom you can rely in times of need." "We want to remain Zaire's good partner as we have been in the past 25 years."

The American deputy secretary of defense regretted the suspension of American aid to Zaire in 1982 and 1983 following the Brooke amendement. "But I am pleased," he went on, "that we were able to lift these restrictions in June 1983 and that we are able to place $7 million at Zairian disposal this financial year to subsidize military assistance." President Reagan, the American deputy secretary of defense went on, has requested the sum of $10.4 million for the year 1985-1986, an increase of about 50 percent.

AZAP on U.S. Friendship, Assistance

AB210925 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0820 GMT 21 Feb 85

[AZAP commentary: "Demonstration of Sincere Friendship"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Feb (AZAP) — The climate between Zaire and the United States is at its best. This reality has been confirmed by the 3-day visit that the U.S. deputy secretary of defense has just made to our country, a visit which was dominated, in light of the status of President Ronald Reagan's envoy, by questions of security, without which no social policy can be brought to fruition nor development program implemented successfully.

During its 25 years of existence as a sovereign nation, Zaire has endured many hardships, some of which gravely threatened the stability of its institutions. It was only through extraordinary efforts and through such tenacity and faith as can move mountains that Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko succeeded in building in the heart of Africa a state which, irrespective of its size and its immense natural resources, inspires respect because of its solid regime and the peace prevailing within its borders.

Asserting that Zaire was alone in its struggle to overcome the various strokes of fate which it has sustained throughout its existence would be contrary to the truth. The nature of the challenges that we had to face in order to guarantee the inviolability of our borders and the peace of mind of our people was not the type one can overcome without assistance. Whenever any setback occurred, the United States was among the first partners to lend us a helping hand.

Surely, the United States, suspected rightly or wrongly of wanting to act as the policemen of the so-called free world, is too aware of Zaire's strategic value to abandon it, without reacting, to the mercy of the destabilizing designs of expansion-loving lords. In this regard, its interventions in favor of young, and therefore vulnerable, nations also seems to respond to the requirements of its world strategy.

The fact remains that for the Zairian people, a sincere friend is one who helps Zaire, above all else, to safeguard what constitutes in its opinion that most valuable possession — peace and tranquillity within its vital space. By deciding to almost double its spending on military assistance in the next fiscal year, the United States has once again shown its sincerity.

The extremely warm welcome that Mr Taft received during his visit to Zaire shows the high esteem in which our country holds the United States, as well as the gratitude of MPR militants towards a people who frankly — and in accordance with our authenticity — deserve to be called Uncle Sam.

BURKINA

Sankara Denounces Botha Reception in France

AB151135 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Telegram sent by President Thomas Sankara to French President Francois Mitterrand on 15 February]

[Text] Mr President, at a time when all peace- and justice-loving nations are condemning the odiuos regime of apartheid, the Burkinabe people deem as a culpable complacence the fact that Pik Botha had been received at the Quay d'Orsay by your minister of external relations.

Receiving Pik Botha means strengthening apartheid and adding more days, months, and years to the suffering of Nelson Mandela, the symbol of freedom for the oppressed black people of South Africa. Receiving Pik Botha adds to the moral misery of millions of men, women, and children. Receiving Pik Botha is an official way of supporting and legitimizing the most odious crime in the world and a subtle way of trying to create a phenomenon of familiarization with apartheid. Receiving Pik Botha also ignores our strong protest made against the provocative tour made by the representative of apartheid last year to your country and other European countries.

Europe has had its devastating Nazism — and we helped get rid of it — we have our dehumanizing apartheid. If the sovereignty of states forbids us to demand gratitude as compensation, our understanding of solidarity between peoples permits us to believe that French citizens cannot remain insensitive to anything that is prejudicial to man and violates the conscience of the world.

We (?all fear) that the warm reception you accorded to a true heir of the architect of the crematoria will increase the legitimate anger of the humiliated blacks — those people who are disliked in France and whose fathers yet offered you their bodies as ramparts against a certain Adolf Hitler.

Fatherland or death, we will win!

Signed, Captain Thomas Sankara

Cooperation Accord Signed With Bulgaria

AB202118 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] At the Ministry of External Relations and Cooperation, an agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation was signed today between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Burkina Faso. The agreement aims to strengthen the cultural and scientific ties between the two countries within the framework of efforts to promote friendly relations and better understanding between the peoples of Bulgaria and Burkina.

The Bulgarian side was represented by His Excellency Kostadin Gyaurov, ambassador plenipotentiary and extraordinary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to Burkina Faso, while the Burkinabe side was represented by Comrade Basile Guissou, minister of external relations and cooperation.

GHANA

Rawlings Says Do Not Take Kumasi Incident 'Seriously'

AB202122 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpts] A 16-member special Asanteman delegation was at the Castle today to express the gratitude of the Asantehene [Asante king], Otumfuo Opoku Ware, the chiefs, and people of Ashanti to the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, for leading a government delegation to Kumasi during the golden jubilee celebration of the restoration of Asanteman [the Ashanti empire]. The delegation was led by the Juabenhene [the chief of Juaben], Nana Otu Osereboa. Nana Osereboa explained that custom demands the people of Ashanti to appreciate the tremendous support Flight Lt Rawlings and the government gave in the preparation toward the celebration.

Chairman Rawlings, on his part, regretted that some people cannot appreciate a humanitarian gesture by their colleagues because of their desire for power. He pointed out that what happened in Kumasi could have happened anywhere in the country, adding that it is just coincidental that it happened there. The leader of the revolution urged the people not to take the incident seriously. He said the government knows the genuine ones from the hypocrites and power-hungry elements who want nothing but the right to misrule people in this country again.

Flight Lt Rawlings said the PNDC is trying to generate and create an atmosphere that would make it possible for the people to realize their own leadership and power. Chairman Rawlings emphasized that there is no political vacuum. The PNDC wants to ensure that the people fill the gap themselves and this does not mean they would not provide the leadership. [sentence as heard]

Delegation Returns From Cooperation Talks in Tripoli

AB202140 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The special adviser to the Provisional National Defense Council, Captain Kojo Tsikata, today returned home after leading a seven-member government delegation to the inaugural session of the Ghana-Libya Joint Commission for Cooperation in Tripoli. Speaking to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport, Capt Tsikata said during the 3-day meeting the agreements establishing the joint commission as well as an instrument of ratification in respect of arts and culture were signed and exchanged. He said meaningful agreements were reached at the meeting. For example, agreements setting up a joint holding company to undertake forestry and wood processing and a haulage company in Ghana were signed. According to Capt Tsikata, the holding company would also undertake tourism in Ghana.

He said while in Libya, he and the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and Ghana's ambassador to Libya, Colonel Joseph Asmah, presented a special message from Chairman Rawlings to the Libyan Leader, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. The delegation was accompanied by the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Accra, Mr (Bawdie Dian 'Abdalla).

Government Delegation Leaves for Suriname
AB191607 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] A four-member Ghana delegation led by a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mr Justice D.F. Annan, today flew to the Suriname capital, Paramaribo, to participate in the celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of the Suriname revolution next week. Other members of the delegation are Father Visser, a member of the prisons council, Dr Mercy Bannerman of the PNDC Secretariat, Nana Kobina Nketsia, a member of the National Commission for Democracy and chairman of the Cape Coast University Council. The delegation will also participate in an international seminar on the socioeconomic situation in the Caribbean and Latin America. They will be away for 10 days.

Mining Agreements With Romanian Firm Approved
AB152040 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] The government has approved two contracts between the Ghana National Manganese Corporation and Geomin, the company for mining and geological cooperation of Romania. Under the first contract, Geomin will carry out geological investigations on manganese ore in the Asikuma-Ntabresa area of the Western Region and evaluate all reserves. Upon the successful outcome of this objective, Geomin will be commissioned to carry out feasibility studies for a mining industry in the area. Under the second contract, Geomin will carry out a pilot scheme for upgrading the low-grade manganese ore in the Nsuta-Wassa area in order to make them more saleable on the world market.

The contracts with Geomin are made under an agreement signed following the third session of the Ghana-Romania joint commission for economic and technical cooperation. The project, to be carried out by Geomin, will enable the Ghana National Manganese Corporation to expand its production of higher grade ores for export.

IVORY COAST

Border Commission Meeting With Ghana Opens
AB201943 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] The reconstituted Ghana-Ivory Coast Joint Border Demarcation Commission began a meeting in Abidjan today. The week-long meeting, which is at the instance of the Ivorian Government, will discuss and review the work of the commission since its reconstitution last year. Ghana is being represented at the meeting by an eight-member team led by Mr Ebo Bentsi-Echill, a legal practitioner and chairman of the Demarcation Commission. He told newsmen before leaving Accra for Abidjan that other issues to be discussed include the Bui hydroelectric project and the recent border clashes at Kofi Badukrom, a border village in Brong Ahafo. The Ghana-Ivory Coast Joint Border Demarcation Commission was set up 18 years ago and was reconstituted last year.

Visits by PRC, Haitian Delegations Approved
AB202207 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The Cabinet met this morning from 1000 to 1300 at the Presidential Palace in Abidjan, under the chairmanship of the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Concerning the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, following various reports by Simeon Ake, chief of this ministry, the head of state accepted the proposed visits to Ivory Coast by two foreign delegations. Thus, a delegation of the Chinese Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries will be invited to visit Ivory Coast. A Haitian delegation led by His Excellency Jean-Robert Estime, foreign minister, will also visit the country. Still under this ministry, the Cabinet heard a report by Foreign Minister Simeon Ake on an invitation sent by the CPC Central Committee for five members of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast — African Democratic Rally to pay an official visit to China.

IVOIRE DIMANCHE on South African 'Lies'
AB160954 Abidjan IVOIRE DIMANCHE in French 17 Feb 85 p 19

[Jerome Carlos Editorial: "South Africa: Mr Botha's Lies"]

[Text] Things are going fast in South Africa since the beginning of the year. The white power is panic-stricken and restless, abandoning its usual arrogance and haughtiness for an attitude which could pass for a willingness to bring about peace or even a desire for conciliation.

Following the setting up of a tri-cameral national assembly (white, Colored, Indian), Mr Botha promises a multi-racial parliament, no more, no less. This parliament would for the first time open the doors of power to blacks. That is the first lie.

Even though it does not constitute a major issue in the grievances of the blacks fighting against apartheid, the law forbidding interracial marriage is questioned. Mr Botha would like to amend it. It is believed that he even has the intention of abolishing it. That is the second lie.

Finally, the third lie is that, according to some rumors, Nelson Mandela could be set free for humanitarian reasons. The truth is something else. This man, a great figure of South African nationalism, has become a cumbersome prisoner. Hence the enticements these days to make him accept freedom on the conditions of the apartheid masters.

A lie remains a lie, even if it has the appearance of truth. Mr Botha knows that the symbolic entering of blacks into a rubber-stamp parliament with no decisionmaking power does not alter the evil principle of apartheid, with its perverse consequences. Mr Botha is aware of the fact that marriage between a Negro and a white is more of a window dressing and does not affect the principle and the effects of the apartheid system, because in South Africa race remains the most important criterion for the access or nonaccess to power, power being the main factor to attain any social standing. Mr Botha knows that by freeing Nelson Mandela on the conditions dictated by apartheid, he takes from the South African nationalist freedom fighters their major trumpcard, their symbol, an element of identification, a factor of the legitimacy of their combat.

So, what is it that suddenly itches the Pretoria authorities? For the first time, racist South Africa is subjected to both internal and external pressures at the same time. Inside the country, the recurrent riots and the guerilla activities of the ANC are a permanent subject of concern. Outside the country, the Nkomati agreements did not yield the expected results. The Frontline States are the victims of Pretoria's duplicity, while Africa was adopting a program of action on Namibia and South Africa last week in Accra during the meeting of the OAU Liberation Committee. Nigeria demonstrated this new resolution by donating 25.92 million CFA francs to the committee and 480 million CFA francs to the ANC. And now, America is becoming more aware of the apartheid problem. President Ronald Reagan is becoming more and more critical of it. He has, for the first time, received the Nobel Prize winner, Rev Desmond Tutu, in the White House. All this is a proof of the new attitude of American official circles. And American public opinion is not willing to be left behind. Several peaceful demonstrations are taking place in front of the South African Embassy in Washington. The American press enters the antiapartheid campaign with strong condemnation of the evil effects of a backward and inhuman system.

These are the reason why the South African authorities are so confused. The white power is at bay. The widely advertised minor reforms will deceive only the gullible. But who still believes in miracles? Apartheid will try to change clothes in vain. No way, Mr Botha.

NIGERIA

Buhari on Trial of Former Politicians, UK Ties

AB202135 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has again assured the nation that top former politicians, including former President Shehu Shagari, will be tried if anything incriminating is found against them. Gen Buhari restated this in Banjul yesterday while addressing a news conference at the end of his 3-day official visit to the Gambia. He disclosed that investigations concerning the detained political figures had not been completed.

On relations between Nigeria and the Gambia, the head of state said that the Federal Government was prepared to explore other areas of cooperation and improve on those already existing. He thanked the president and the people of the Gambia for their hospitality and for conferring on him their highest national honor.

In answer to a question, Gen Buhari maintained that relations between Nigeria and Britain were cordial despite recent developments that led to the recalling of their high commissioners.

Army Clarifies Stand on African High Command

AB181620 Lagos International Service in English 1430 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] The Nigerian Army has described as erroneous the impression given by two national dailies in separate editorials on the African high command. The editorials had quoted the minister of defense, Major General Domkat Bali, as having said that the proposed amphibious and airborne units of the Nigerian Army were meant to provide the Army with an organic unit to fight in Lake Chad and creeks [as heard].

A statement by the Army Public Relations Department in Lagos explained that what the minister said was that (?since) the big ships of the Navy did not normally operate in creeks and shallow waters like Lake Chad, small amphibious and airborne units could be stationed in such waters for defense purposes.

The statement said Nigeria believed in, and would continue to pursue a policy of peaceful coexistence with all her neighbors.

Lagos on Proposed U.S. Withdrawal From IDA

AB191205 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] The International Development Association, IDA, is a lending agency created by the United Nations in September 1960 to operate as an affiliate of the World Bank. It was formed specifically to promote economic development, increase productivity, and raise the living standard of people in the areas less developed in the world. The IDA does this by providing funds to meet the important development requirements of the needy countries on terms which are more flexible and bear less heavily on the balance of payments of such countries than conventional loans. In other words, the IDA loans create no serious burden for the recipient nations and do not carry political strings linked to the other forms of assistance from one country to another.

In announcing the intention of his administration to discontinue America's contribution to the IDA, President Reagan said he would prefer giving direct aid to developing countries to doing so through the IDA. Over the years, the United States has been the largest contributor to the fund of the IDA in view of its enormous wealth. For this reason, the withdrawal of the U.S. from the IDA scheme would have very serious effects on the useful services which the IDA has been rendering. This is why a great deal of concern is being expressed in many quarters over the American proposal to withdraw from the IDA as it did 6 weeks ago from another UN agency, UNESCO.

The alternative which President Reagan has suggested cannot by any figment of imagination be an adequate substitute for the IDA scheme. It is a notorious fact that advanced countries have always attached a web of political strings to loans or aid which they offer to the poorer nations. There is no assurance whatsoever that the Reagan administration's alternative would be different. In fact, it could even put recipient nations into tighter economic, political, and social straitjackets.

The IDA has an impressive record of aiding economic and other forms of growth in the nations which have benefitted from its loan scheme. The beneficiaries are those countries whose annual per capita has been less that $520, and from its inception up to June 1979, the IDA had committed well over $16 billion for development projects in different parts of the world.

Since the Reagan administration has leveled no charges of mismanagement against the IDA, it is difficult to appreciate the motive behind the move by the administration to discontinue its funding of the association in preference to a bilateral arrangement. Any move to deny the IDA of the means to continue to play its highly commendable role in the development of the poorer nations is definitely inimical to the interests of such nations.

TOGO

Military Maneuvers With France Conclude

AB201809 Paris AFP in French 1529 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Lome, 20 Feb (AFP) — The French-Togolese military maneuvers, which began last weekend in the maritime region of Togo, ended on Wednesday morning with a military and civilian parade. The maneuvers, which were attended by observers from Entente Council's member countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, and Niger), took place in the presence of General Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the Republic, minister of defense, and chief of General Staff of the Togolese Armed Forces, and of General Jeannou Lacaze, chief of staff of the French Armed Forces.

"France has always assisted its friends to defend their security, their sovereignty, and their liberty. This attachment to peace," Colonel Ameyi, deputy chief of staff of the Togolese Armed Forces, stated in an address, "has been well expressed by President Mitterrand when he said that as peace and security constitute the very conditions for development, France would come to the assistance of African countries whenever their independence was threatened."

Wednesday morning was declared holiday to enable the inhabitants in Lome municipality to attend the parade.

National Assembly Elections Set for 24 March

AB152218 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Through a decree signed by the president of the Republic, the electorate is invited to elect members of the National Assembly on 24 March 1985. Candidates may file their candidacy at the Ministry of the Interior from 15-28 February 1985. The opening date for the election campaign for the 24 March general elections is Saturday, 9 March 1985, at midnight. The election campaign will end on Friday, 22 March 1985, at midnight.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Chairs People's Assembly Meeting

MB201413 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The People's Assembly, the supreme organ of state power in the People's Republic of Angola, has been meeting in Luanda since this morning under the chairmanship of Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

During this ninth session, the deputies have been examining 10 points. Two of these were added at the request of the participants, one to provide information on the country's general political and military situation, which has already been presented by Colonel Ndalo, the chief of the general staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, and the second on the functioning of the People's Assembly working commissions.

By late this morning, another five points from the working agenda had already been discussed. As a result, the deputies discussed and approved the report of the eighth ordinary session of the People's Assembly, the 1985 national plan, and the state general budget for the current year. They also approved the draft resolutions on our country's admission to the world Interparliamentary Union and the Union of African Parliamentarians, resolutions on the formation of the National Parliamentary Group, and the agreement on a common fund for basic products [acordo sobre o fundo comum].

Luanda Reports on Successes Against UNITA

206 Killed in Benguela

MB171017 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] The defense and security forces annihilated 206 UNITA puppets and captured another 14 during a number of mopping up operations carried out in the jungles of Benguela Province during January. According to ANGOP, during the same period 2 UNITA bandit camps were destroyed, 812 people were freed, and 803 cattle stolen by the bandits were recovered.

28 'Bandits' Killed

MB200643 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The military court of the fourth region condemned another UNITA lackey to death by firing squad during a session held in the city of Huambo the day before yesterday. This bandit, who had the rank of lieutenant, carried out economic sabotage operations, massacred defenseless civilians, and commited high treason and other crimes against the state security. The military court also began the day before yesterday the trial of another UNITA bandit accused of the same crimes.

Meanwhile, the national defense and security forces continue to inflict blows against that criminal gang, daily decreasing its chances of carrying out subversive operations. From 29 January to 4 February, 28 bandits were killed and 12 captured during operations carried out in the 3d, 8th, and 10th military regions.

Huambo Province Operations

MB210606 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] A total of 38 UNITA criminals were annihilated and another 5 captured by the defense and security forces during operations carried out in Huambo Province between 5 and 11 February 1985. During the operations, 290 people were freed from the murderous claws of the UNITA puppet group and various war materiel was captured. The operations were carried out in the municipalities of Bailundo, Cachiombo, and Longonjo.

MALAWI

UK Commerce Delegation Arrives in Lilongwe

MB201703 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A 14-man delegation of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry arrived in the country today for a week-long visit. Speaking to the Malawian Broadcasting Corporation on arrival in Lilongwe, the leader of the delegation, Mr (John Dower), said that while in the country, they will hold discussions with government officials and company executives. He said that the discussions will focus on agriculture, power, water, and infrastructure engineering.

MOZAMBIQUE

Official Discusses RSA Ties, Disinvestment Campaign

MB191205 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The national director of labor relations in Mozambique, Dr Adolfo Justino, says that even if sanctions are applied against South Africa, he believes that both the South African and Mozambican Governments will continue to comply with the agreements signed between the two countries.

Dr Justino was interviewed in Maputo by Radio RSA, and, asked what the consequences might be of a successful sanctions and disinvestment campaign against South Africa, he said Mozambique intended to maintain faithfully everything discussed with South Africa, no matter what happened.

Dr Justino said it was a recognized fact that South Africa and Mozambique were economically dependent. South Africa needed workers from Mozambique, and the railways and ports in Mozambique. On the other hand, he believed South Africa would contribute to investment in Mozambique. For historical and traditional reasons, South Africa and Mozambique were interlinked economically.

Further on Joint Communique With Mongolia

MB201237 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Mozambique and Mongolia have stressed the importance and usefulness of the OAU as well as the role it plays in defending the most legitimate interests of the African peoples and advancing national independence and sovereignty. In the Mozambique-Mongolia joint communique, the two sides also reaffirmed their trust in the OAU, which has been strengthened and is even more united since the 20th summit, despite attempts by imperialism and reaction to divide the organization and oppose the emancipation of the African peoples and countries.

On the situation on the Asian Continent, the two delegations to the Mozambique-Mongolia talks favored the establishment of peace and cooperation among the countries in the region. They stressed that a resolution of the Southeast Asian problem will only be possible through political dialogue among the parties that are directly interested, without foreign intervention.

Mozambique and Mongolia firmly supported the efforts of the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the defense of the gains of the April revolution, the joint communique issued at the end of the visit by the Mongolian delegation to our country says.

The two sides also noted Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy as being the main cause of the aggravation of the situation in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon. The two sides reaffirmed that no resolution of the crisis will be achieved unless Israel withdraws its forces from the Arab territories it has been occupying since 1967 and recognizes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to create their own nation. In that connection, the two sides discussed the holding of an international conference on the Middle East involving all interested parties, including the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

NAMIBIA

FRG Delegation Says SWAPO No Longer 'Factor'

MB201033 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A group of FRG parliamentarians who have just completed a week-long visit to South-West Africa say it appears that SWAPO is no longer a factor in the territory. A spokesman for the group said reform in South Africa had created a new positive political climate, which was currently missing in South-West Africa. A member of the group was also of the opinion that SWAPO was losing its political influence over the people of Ovambo. The delegation will present a report of their visit to the FRG foreign minister, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha To Officially Open Mbabane Trade Office

MB201424 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha is to visit Swaziland on Monday to officially open the South African Trade Mission offices in Mbabane. The offices were established soon after the summit meeting between South Africa and Swaziland in Cape Town last year.

A spokesman for the Swazi Ministry of Foreign Affairs says that Mr Botha is expected to meet his Swazi counterpart, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, and probably also Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi and other ministers.

7 Appear on Treason Charges in Durban Court

MB210905 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0858 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Durban, Feb 21, SAPA — Seven people appeared in the Durban regional court today to be joined with eight others who appeared previously on an allegation of treason.

Appearing before magistrate Mr T.L. Blunden were Mrs Albertina Sisulu, 66, president of the United Democratic Front; UDF Transvaal vice-president, the Reverend Frank Chikane, 34; UDF national treasurer, Mr Casim Saloojee, 49; the Transvaal leader of the Anti-President Council Committee, Professor Ismail Mahomed, 54; and three members of the South African Amalgamated Workers Union, Mr Sisa Njikaleni, 29; Mr Sam Kikine, 38; and Mr Isaac Ngcobo, 36.

The prosecutor, Mr J.A. Oberholzer, asked that the seven be joined with the people who appeared previously. He asked that they be remanded in custody to March 29. Certificates from the attorney-general, prohibiting the granting of bail, would be applied for, he said. The state had 14 days to produce the certificates.

Mr I. Mohomed, SC, opposed the remand. He said they were unhappy about the remand if it meant the seven would be in custody for a substantial time.

Johannesburg on Trial

MB210836 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The trial of 14 people on charges of high treason — 6 are to appear today, 8 have already been charged — has elicited extraordinary reactions from spokesmen of the United Democratic Front [UDF] and some of its affiliates. It is claimed that action taken in arresting the people who are now to stand trial exposes the dishonesty of moves to achieve a reconciliation with groups legitimately engaged in extraparliamentary political

activities. Such spokesmen should consider the implications of what they are saying. In effect, they maintain that the extraparliamentary groups they represent stand in oppostion to the prosecution of people on charges of treason, regarded in all states as one of the gravest of crimes, since it strikes at the survival of a country and all its people.

Treason lies all together outside the sphere of democratic participation, or be it through extraparliamentary channels, in the political process. That there is a firm commitment nowadays to drawing into that process all groups that adhere to democratic principles has been conclusively confirmed by recent announcements on such initiatives as the creation of a negotiating forum and the offer of freedom to security prisoners who renounce violence in politics. The invitation extended through the initiatives applies as much to those groups that until now have been unwilling to participate in the mainstream of politics, concentrating instead on unconventional political activities, as to any others. But, reconciliation on that level has never signified a readiness to negotiate with those who by their use of violence to achieve political objectives have already excluded themselves from the political process.

As far as the 14 are concerned, the only fair course for all concerned is to observe the convention governing all court cases. Any comment on the situation must await the outcome of a trial and the judge's considered verdict. South Africa's courts have an excellent international reputation for independence and impartiality, and those charged know that they will receive a full and proper hearing. An attempt to turn the treason trial into a political issue cannot succeed. It is too transparent a ploy and the integrity of our supreme court is too firmly established to be in any way touched by it. What such an attempt might well achieve, however, is the raising of questions about the real motives and aims of those behind it.

U.S. Reaction Cited

MB210533 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] The United States has expressed regret at the arrest of members of the United Democratic Front, UDF, and other organizations. A State Department spokesman, Mr Bernard Kalb, said in Washington that the arrests could not help the prospects for a dialogue, which the South African Government had recognized as essential to achieve movement away from apartheid. He said the United States urged that those detained be given the full benefit of due process and speedy resolution of their cases.

Crossroads Calm After Meeting, Tutu Address

MB210648 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] The strike-torn Crossroads squatter camp near Cape Town is reported to be relatively calm today. Western Cape police report the violence is subsiding and clearing up operations are getting under way. At least 16 people have been killed and more than 200 hundred others injured in the past few days in violent clashes between squatters and armed police. As Ian Krunig first reports, the violence tapered off after a meeting between government officials and squatter leaders.

[Begin recording] The squatters main demands were the granting of legal status and the immediate removal of the police presence in the camp. All squatter leaders said they would continue to refuse any removals to Kayelitsha, until their communities had been granted full legal residential rights. Over 600 black government employees have arrived in Cape Town to assist the Western Cape development board with the removals. Minister of Cooperation and Development Gerrit Viljoen said the men were in Cape Town to provide transport for people who wish to use the department's office of assistance in moving to Kayelitsha. Sporadic stone throwing was reported from Crossroads, Nyanga East, and the Paarl township of Mabokweni, last night. [end recording]

Earlier, Bishop Desmond Tutu appealed for calm in the troubled settlement. He spent yesterday with Crossroads residents and met 12 different committees representing the squatters. The Nobel Peace Prize winner also addressed about 3000 squatters. Tutu says his discussion with the squatters leaders resulted in a call for a return to work and an end to the violence.

[Begin Tutu recording] They are asking me to appeal to the community to accept that the major objective of their protest, which is that they should not be forcibly removed to Kayelitsha, that objective has been attained, even if for a temporary period. [end recording]

Paarl Township Determined To Resist Removal

MB211020 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1013 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Paarl, Feb 21, SAPA — Unrest spread to the Paarl township of Mbekweni yesterday after residents held all-night meetings to discuss government plans to move them to Kayelitsha.

While police said the township was calm apart from isolated incidents, residents said the meetings had decided any government vehicles entering the township would be "demolished". They also decided to actively prevent beer purchases from the township beerhall, one resident told a local newspaper.

A police spokesman said a Western Cape Development Board vehicle was set alight. No arrests had been made, he said.

Residents said yesterday that meetings on Tuesday night had been called in response to fear expressed by Crossroads squatters that they were about to be moved to Kayelitsha. They said Mbekweni residents were determined not to move to the controversial new township. In terms of the government's overall plans for Kayelitsha, Mbekweni is one of the townships to be moved.

Struggle Urged Against Eviction From Crossroads

EA201255 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Station commentary: "People Stand Up Against Kayelitsha"]

[Text] Compatriots, it is clear now that despite the noises being made by the racists, trying to assure us that they do not intend forcing our people into the Western Cape, into the sandy and barren Kayelitsha toilet village, the regime is determined more than ever before to go ahead with this dirty genocidal process. If Botha and his henchmen say they will not force us into Kayelitsha, then why are they going ahead with the construction of the unwanted place? Because if they are interested in building houses for us, why waste money on an unwanted project?

One of the racists' spokesman even said that the residents will never be evicted against their will. We would like to ask this racist to cite just one example of a voluntary removal in the history of the African people of this country. Why then are the Boers telling us that they will not force us out of homes to Kayelitsha? The reason is that it has been because of the intensifying resistance on our part.

We shall remember that in 1978 also, it was because of our relentless struggle that we forced the enemy to let us stay at Crossroads. If it was according to the enemy's plan, we would have long ago left these places and most of us would have long died because of the unbearable conditions in the resettlement areas. But because of our relentless fighting, we are still here at Crossroads and are determined to stay forever.

Now, because of our resistance, the enemy has started attacking us. Yesterday alone, at least five innocent civilians of Crossroads were cold-bloodedly murdered when the angels of death stormed that shanty town and sowed death and destruction. More than 20 fellow countrymen were reported to have sustained severe injuries. There are the signs that the enemy intends escalating this reign of terror in Crossroads.

Reports said that when the racist troops and police opened fire, our compatriots responded by fighting back with all the means and methods at their disposal. This, fellow South Africans, is commendable. It is important for all of us to realize that all our struggles and battles against the apartheid system have only one solution. It is either we emerge victorious or we remain in slavery.

The struggle against the apartheid system is unlike walking in a tunnel where there is always a possibility of going back if the situation (?demands). Our struggle is like fighting to get out of a hole. We are fighting from within a hole and the regime is trying to push us further down so as to bury us alive and we are fighting to get out of the hole. Digging further down will not help us. We have to come out and to come out means we have to defeat the monster that is blocking the only exit we have.

We have the capability of overcoming (?this). Our triumph lies in unity and determination. The people of Crossorads have fought heroically in the past but we all know that without our active and militant solidarity countrywide, they will be crushed in the end.

If we do not come out as a nation and stop the racists (?and their friends), our compatriots at Crossroads will end up in the inhabitable resettlement at Kayelitsha, where they will have to wait for one thing only — their day of death.

Surely, fellow countrymen, we cannot allow the Pretoria regime to murder 250,000 of our people in this manner. If we cannot protest and defend this quarter of a million people in Crossroads, then what else are we doing? It will mean that enemy will come again in the future and repeat the same (?brutal) [words indistinct]. Let us stand up united against this threat. We call upon all compatriots, all patriots of our country, all those who say they want a free and democratic South Africa, to move into action. We call on you, fellow countrymen, to [words indistinct]. Let us pledge active solidarity. That we can do by attacking the enemy wherever we are, (?at our) places of (?work), schools, or in our residential (?estates). [passage indistinct]

Down with Kayelitsha! Power to the people!

Le Grange Says Police Will Not Condone Violence

MB201614 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, has indicated that the police are no longer prepared to condone violence instigated by certain individuals.

Mr le Grange said in a statement issued in Cape Town that under no circumstances was the government prepared to allow the maintenance of law and order to be undermined by unscrupulous individuals who activated peaceful communities to unnecessary violent confrontation with the police.

Mr le Grange extended his condolences to the next of kin of people killed in the violence in the Cape Peninsula and elsewhere.

Asks for Better Communication

MB191447 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange has appealed to allpublic bodies, employees, and individuals in positions of authority to communicate more as a way of resolving the unrest problem in the Eastern Cape.

Speaking at a news conference in Port Elizabeth, he said it is clear that there is a serious lack of communication. The police cannot be expected to maintain law and order and to communicate with all concerned about community and social problems.

Mr le Grange said that the white community would have to become much more involved if a solution is to be found to the problem.

Treurnict Urges Protest Against NP 'Coalition' Rule

MB170638 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] The leader of the Conservative Party [CP], Dr Andries Treurnicht, has called on conservative Afrikaners to unite in a protest action against what he has termed the coalition government of the National Party [NP]. Speaking in Pretoria, Dr Treurnicht said conservatives should give each other an assurance that no one would rest before the reinstatement of a white government governing whites.

He reiterated his party's determined stand against the abolition of Section 16 of the Immorality Act and the Mixed Marriages Act. He said the desire of whites to remain whites should not be underestimated.

After a pointed attack on the South African Broadcasting Corporation, a motion was passed that steps will be taken if the fairness and quality of the SABC's broadcasts, according to the motion, did not improve.

Dr Treurnicht said the CP had conducted a No campaign at the end of 1983, but that the party is now working towards a yes vote.

[Begin Treurnicht recording — in Afrikaans] There is a yes of which we are capable, and there is a yes we will be calling for, and that is the yes for your own people, and that is the yes for a white government in South Africa for whites. [applause] We are going to demand a yes vote for justice for all population groups on the basis of separate development. [applause] We will demand a yes for our people, for a policy of separate freedoms for white, and black, and Indian, and Colored.

[In English] Our people ask is the strong U.S. dollar, is it really the cause of the most of our economic problems in South Africa? And the answer is no. [interjections] The rand did not only depreciate against the dollar, it also depreciated against other currencies. The rand is down by about 40 percent against the German mark and the Japanese yen. Forty percent. The rand even declined the past year by some 25 percent against the Zimbabwean dollar. Ladies and gentlemen, the real problem is the government's expenditure, which is completely out of control. [applause] [end recording]

U.S. Official Cited on Changes in Nation

MB160840 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] A top American State Department official says the dynamics of South Africa's own development is responsible for the positive changes within the country. He says neither the current American administration nor any American individual can make claim to having enforced any changes or developments on South Africa. Radio RSA's representative in Washington reports that the official, who has refused to be named, is probably the one official in Mr Reagan's administration with the most intimate knowledge of South Africa and her internal position.

The State Department official says the United States cannot and will not claim to have enforced any changes on South Africa, and that the most it can say is it may just have had a modest influence. The official also reiterated the American Government's opposition to any efforts towards disinvestment in South Africa. He stated that most Americans were also opposed to disinvestment. He said that as far as South-West Africa/Namibia was concerned, a new phase had been entered into in November last year. He said that with the published proposal of the two main parties involved, there was enough potential for the United States to put its weight behind efforts to resolve the question of the future of the territory, and to see the Lusaka Agreement through its logical conclusion.

As far as Mozambique was concerned, he said there was very little, if any, indication that Renamo was being provided with official support from South Africa. In general, the State Department official said a more hopeful position existed now than ever before for a peaceful solution to the problems of southern Africa. The fact that the Lusaka Agreement had led to a stopping of the war and cross border aggression in southern Angola could be regarded as a significant achievement.

SUNDAY TIMES on U.S. Human Rights Report

MB171110 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 17 Feb 85 p 24

[Editorial: "Human Rights: The Beam in Our Eye"]

[Text] The U.S. State Department's world report on Human Rights released this week makes appalling reading for South Africa.

For years, the security authorities have sought to justify their often excessive actions by the spurious boast that we shape up better than the rest of Africa.

Now, even that threadbare shroud has been ripped away by this week's report. Our record has sunk below many African countries.

There are more political killings, detentions without trial, disappearances into the hands of authorities and restrictions on freedom of movement here than in a good many states to the north.

Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia, and in some instances Ghana and Lesotho, generally commit fewer human rights transgressions than South Africa, says the report.

In company with the likes of Uganda and Ethiopia, South Africa is cited for the use of torture by security officials.

Nor should we scurry for refuge with accusations that this is simply anti-South Africa propaganda.

The report is no United Nations diatribe; it is a sober assessment generally well-regarded for accuracy.

The Government should take careful note of its contents and curb the mandarins in charge of our fearful security apparatus — not just because of the damage they do our international reputation, but for the harm they do us as a nation.

Hopefully, next year's report will make better reading. Already, President Botha's conditional amnesty offer to Nelson Mandela and other long-term political prisoners is a welcome step towards a more healthy situation.

The fact that 18 prisoners have already availed themselves of the offer will reduce our grim statistics.

Nor should the fact that Mr Mandela and others have rejected the offer and made counter-demands lead to despondency. Both sides have constituencies to serve and a certain amount of grandstanding is inevitable.

That negotiations are under way at all is an encouraging advance on the stalemate that has prevailed for the past 20 years.

SOWETAN on Government 'Jockeying,' U.S. Role

MB210547 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
13 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] Unaware as we are of domestic American feelings about constructive engagement, because of the distances between us and that country, a view from a leading American on this policy is certainly enlightening.

The refreshing view comes from the former United Nations ambassador, Mr Donald McHenry, who believes that President Reagan's administration has gone way out on a limb in its constructive engagement policy with Southern Africa.

Mr McHenry, now a specialist in African affairs at Georgetown University, was discussing indications that constructive engagement was in serious trouble.

Among other things, he says signs are that the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique is threatened by the continued ravages of the Mozambique National Resistance rebels, that the Namibia efforts have stalled and that reforms in South Africa are proving insufficient to appease American critics of apartheid.

Mr McHenry is saying the type of thing that Bishop Desmond Tutu has been drumming to the world, without much success. Instead Bishop Tutu has been depicted by his adversaries as some kind of radical priest of very little intellectual acuity. That is their problem.

We have a feeling that, as Mr McHenry puts it, America has committed itself to a policy, and in its usual way, supporting the bad but powerful guys. It is most difficult to "walk the cat back to where they found it" as he rather colorfully puts it.

The trouble is, after Nkomati and the other phantom successes that Mr Botha's administration believed it had pulled off last year, America in a way tried to be seen as part of the success story.

There are indeed certain observers who believe the current African National Congress-Mandela charade with the government is also something orchestrated from the United States. The argument is that America may have dropped the idea in somebody's ear that the best way to show "movement" and constructive action would be to have something like a round table scenario with the ANC.

The cherry on the top of this would then be to release Mr Nelson Mandela and have him as the ace in the pack of the government's political jockeying. Somebody up there must have got almost over-excited about an ANC destabilised, about a Mandela speaking to the government. As a political stroke of manouevre this would have been faultless. But these people did not think about the response from the ANC and Mr Mandela.

We are sure that even Mr Mandela behind those bars knows what happened to Mr Machel, what is happening and has happened to the Namibia issue, to Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana in this chess game of power politics. If Mr Mandela knows about these things, then the ANC has no business not to be properly briefed about the whole scenario and what it amounts to.

Mr Mandela's very powerful and most characteristic response is public now, and as usual the soured parties, whose seemingly well-planned strategy had collapsed, are saying all sorts of nasty things about him, about the ANC and strangely too about the United Democratic Front. If these stirrings are what we think they mean, then the UDF has got to watch out for the inevitable chop.

Pretoria 'Far Too Tolerant' of Kaunda, Tutu Slurs

MB210558 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English
16 Feb 85 p 6

[Editorial: "The Plot"]

[Text] Sometimes we think South Africa is far too tolerant of neighbours who smear it.

A case in point is President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia. He said in Stockholm this week that there would be a "violent explosion" in South Africa within two or three years unless the West united in economic sanctions against South Africa.

"When the explosion comes, it will make the French revolution look like a Sunday morning picnic," he told a press conference.

Zambia, although in a difficult financial position, would be ready to pay the price of a boycott of South Africa, he said.

Now we know that Zambia is dependent on South Africa not just for the port and rail facilities that enable it to export its ores and import goods, but for South African supplies and services.

It is dependent on us even for the liquor its rulers imbibe.

So what in heaven's name does Dr Kaunda think he is doing when he goes around calling for an economic boycott of South Africa?

What would he do if South African anticipated the boycott by cutting off its trade with Zambia? Or stopping Zambia from using its railways and ports?

We are sure Dr Kaunda would squeal to high heaven about the nasty South Africans trying to put pressure on his country, and claim this is what South Africa does in seeking to destabilise its neighbors, and won't the West fight the bullies, etcetera, etcetera?

The trouble with Dr Kaunda is that he apes people like Bishop Desmond Tutu, who paint such a terrible picture of South Africa and the "bloodbath" that is about to happen that overseas opinion swings against the Republic and economic sanctions becomes more and more an acceptable weapon against this country.

However, do the Tutus, and the Kaundas, and their ilk not appreciate, even now, that by their constant harping on violence they are not only conditioning foreigners to expect the worst, but are encouraging black organisations here to believe this is the way to achieve their aims?

We have said before today that Bishop Tutu has caused this country the most grievous harm by his comparison of our government's policies with those of Nazi Germany. He has also caused this country the most tremendous harm by calling for economic action against South Africa.

We suspect that Bishop Tutu believes his Nobel Peace Prize status protects him from any action by the authorities.

Dr Kaunda also seems to believe that he can say what he likes because the South African Government cannot retaliate harshly against him.

We hope that if they continue the way they are going, both Bishop Tutu and President Kaunda will find that Pretoria's tolerance runs thin.

To assess the situation, we would say that there is a concerted campaign to blackguard South Africa as the most racialistic country since Hitler's Germany, a country with a final solution to the black problem like that of Hitler in the case of the Jews, and a country that deserves to be economically punished.

We would go further and say that the continuing unrest in schools is part of the plot that began last year with the rioting in the Vaal Triangle and the school boycotts and violence that blighted the educational opportunities of thousands of young blacks.

The idea is to cause death and destruction, to radicalise black youth, and to add to the serious problems of the out-of-works so that a fertile field is created for further violence.

The minister of law and order, Mr Le Grange, has warned that the government "is not prepared to negotiate with people of violence and it will take action against those who promote violence."

Fair enough. But violence towards South Africa's image abroad is as bad as violence within the country. For both are aimed at bringing us to our knees, and both must be fought if we are to progress, and change, in peace.

Johannesburg on Actions of Tutu, Boesak, Mandela

MB180834 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Commentary from the "Africa Survey" program presented by Cliff Saunders]

[Text] Last Sunday, the dearly beloved of the tarnished halo brigade were out in force at the Jabulani amphitheater in Soweto, and we were treated to a spectacle so incongruous in content, so ridiculous in context, as to make the angels weep. There in that stadium we had, gathered together under the banner of the United Democratic Front [UDF], a crowd of some 9,000 people.

The actual occasion was to celebrate the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Desmond Tutu. Peace, we could justifiably have felt, would be the operative word — an earthly representative of the Prince of Peace being publicly acclaimed for receiving an internationally famous peace prize, and the entire occasion being sponsored by the UDF, an organization which repeatedly and publicly proclaims its utter devotion to peaceful pursuits in its efforts to change the face of South Africa.

But suddenly, as they say, the curtain lifts, and Nelson Mandela's daughter, Zinzi, emerges, resplendent in UDF t-shirt, to make an announcement. Nine thousand people begin cheering wildly as she lets them know that her father has refused to renounce violence, that he would rather languish in prison as the exponent of violence than be a free man favoring peace.

Bishop Tutu himself, introduced to the crowd as the freedom fighter, clarifies his political affiliations publicly. Referring to Mandela's message, Bishop Tutu denies that he is a political leader, but adds: We heard our leaders just now.

Meanwhile, over in Maputo a few days later, the oh so Rev Allan Boesak included in his speech on South Africa's moral waywardness the observation that Nelson Mandela had done absolutely the right thing by rejecting the government offer. Dr Boesak took the risk of entertaining this view, despite the indications these days that he himself has become a stranger to doing absolutely the right thing. The Reverend Boesak, who is also a patron of the UDF — an honor he shares with Nelson Mandela — then gave his view of the leader of the ANC terrorist organization. Nelson Mandela, he stated, is regarded by the UDF as a great leader.

This reaction by Dr Boesak, those bizarre events at the Jabulani amphitheater last Sunday, must combine to bring us to one conclusion: Radical elements within this country, operating under the cloth of religion, those operating behind the face of commitment to peaceful change, must be regarded not only with suspicion, but with outright hostility by those who have a sincere commitment to peaceful processes.

Three weeks ago, I said in Africa Survey that I was not certain in my own mind whether people should abandon the Anglican church in South Africa because of the appointment of Bishop Desmond Tutu as Bishop of Johannesburg — this, because of the radical nature of such a step. Subsequently, I received a multitude of letters from Anglicans, disillusioned with the bishop's appointment. Subsequently, as well, there have been those dramatic events at the Jabulani amphitheater, so that today we must ask the tens of thousands of Anglicans in this country: Are you prepared to be led by freedom fighter Tutu, the man who regards as his leader, the leader of the ANC terrorist organization, Nelson Mandela, the man who cheered as loudly as everybody else when it was announced that Mandela refused to renounce violence?

Up to now, Bishop Tutu has managed to get away with a great deal. Now is the time for people to take up pen and paper and do whatever else is necessary to let him know precisely what they think. The man who told the world that black South Africans would welcome the Russians here as saviors — and he himself is black — should be told in no uncertain terms that he is not welcome.

Back to the UDF again. In a later statement, intended, it can only be, to prove beyond doubt that it avoids all logical thought processes, the UDF has declared that failure to release Mandela will lead to more violence in this country. What the UDF is telling us, therefore, is that releasing a man committed to violence, so that he can further motivate his terrorist gang, will in fact lead to less violence. No gymnastics of the mind can figure that out, unless the UDF issued that statement as a threat, in which case it makes a great deal of sense, and in which case this is no time for the security police to go into hibernation.

Over now to a related issue. Following Nelson Mandela's rejection of the government's offer, several newspapers have assessed the situation as being one where doors remain open for further negotiations and discussion. Whether or not this was an idea leaked to those newspapers by government sources, in Africa Survey the unequivocal stand is taken: There should be no doors left open for discussion. They must now remain firmly shut, unless Mandela unconditionally accepts the offer of freedom in exchange for his pledge to renounce violence.

Mandela and the ANC were placed in an extemely uncomfortable tactical position following the South African Government's offer. It took them some days to cook up a counterresponse, designed to outmaneuver the government, the counter being the five demands made of the government.

Should the government now regard these demands as a basis for debate with Mandela and the ANC, it will find itself once more on the defensive, and will lose the ensuing propaganda battle. The situation as it stands should be very clear. The South African Government made a humane and reasonable offer to Mandela. He refused to renounce violence, so the chapter is closed. This government should find itself under no further obligation whatsoever to discuss the political demands of an imprisoned saboteur and his terrorist supporters.

SOWETAN on Mandela, ANC Reply to Botha
MB161238 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
11 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Mandela"]

[Text] Jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader, Nelson Mandela, has turned down president P.W. Botha's offer of a conditional release. Mandela had to renounce violence and he would be released.

Mandela's rejection of the government's offer received enthusiastic support from the thousands of people at the Jabulani Amphitheatre — yesterday some whom had specifically come to the stadium to hear his response. It was clear from the response that the people wanted him to reject the offer by Botha, for just as Mandela had seen through it, so the people had seen through it as a gesture aimed at emasculating him as a leader of the people.

Before this reply a rather hectic week saw newspapers publishing a statement by ANC leader in exile, Oliver Tambo. Tambo committed the ANC to a continuation of the armed struggle. It has to be mentioned that the Government allowed this official statement to be published. We have to find out why.

Our reading of the situation is that the Government is preparing to harden its attitude to any action by the ANC, people or organisations perceived to be acting in furtherance of the aims of the organisation. For, the Government will argue, despite offers to Mandela that he renounces violence in return for freedom, he has instead committed himself to his organisation, which this past week stated in no uncertain terms that it would continue the armed struggle.

We thus have no doubt in our minds that the Tambo statement got approval for publication because of its propaganda value to the Government rather than the relaxation of the stringent censorship that exists in the country. We can thus brace ourselves for tough action against any peoples or organisations seen to be furthering the aims of the ANC, or any other banned organisation.

But, we have to caution the Government on this type of attitude. The solution to the problems of this country does not lie in harsh repressive measures or in the imposition of conditions to the organisations of the peoples and their leaders, but in the Government and organisations of the peoples, meeting as equals to map out the future of this country.

With both at different corners we fear that the peace we all want will continue to be elusive. The polarisation appears to be escalating and instead of the Government doing its best to decrease this process, it is engaged in political point scoring for the benefit of the outside world.

We, like many other people in the country, are committed to peaceful change and we believe the time of political point scoring is long past and that the time for the reconstruction of this country's future has long arrived.

We pray that all parties involved should realise the gravity of the situation and get to grips with the problems facing us.

Ciskei Government Releases Message on RSA Recall

MB201919 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The Ciskei Government has released details of a message sent to the deputy minister of defense, Mr Adrian Vlok. This is in response to a report tabled in the House of Assembly by Mr Vlok on the recalling of South African soldiers seconded to Ciskei.

The message says the report contains many mistakes and does not reflect the true state of affairs. Ciskei says a commission of enquiry had been appointed to investigate irregularities in the Ciskeian Defense Force after the death of three Ciskeian soldiers at the (Sandile) Defense Force Base.

The commission had recommended that three seconded South African soldiers be sent back to South Africa. President Sebe had then asked for a meeting with the chief of the South African Defense Froce, General Constand Viljoen, to discuss the findings of the commission. There had been no talks and South Africa had recalled the rest of its seconded Defense Force staff.

The telex message said that afterwards Ciskei had asked South Afric to rescind the order but the request had been refused.

ANC Statement Blames RSA for Botswana Bomb Blast

EA161505 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 15 Feb 85

["Text" of ANC statement on 13 February bombing in Botswana]

[Text] The South African racist regime has once again unleashed its terrorism on an independent African state. In the early hours of Wednesday 13 [February] a bomb blast devastated a house in the Botswana capital of Gaborone injuring two sleeping occupants. This latest outrage follows earlier threats made by Pretoria and its bantustan surrogates in Bophuthatswana claiming that Botswana was harboring ANC militants who were attacking South Africa from Botswana.

The ANC rejects this deliberate lie and vigorously condemns this barbaric attack on innocent refugees who have fled from apartheid oppression and are peacefully pursuing their professions surrounded by the hospitality of Botswana, such as the BBC correspondent [words indistinct]. This aggression against the Republic of Botswana is practical [word indistinct] of South Africa's bullying, as stated by President Quett Masire some time ago, intended to force Botswana into relinquishing her humanitarian stand on refugees and entering [words indistinct].

The ANC commends the people and the Government of Botswana for their steadfast rejection of apartheid coercion, and calls upon democrats everywhere to stand firm in support of the Republic of Botswanna and the struggle for national liberation in South Africa.

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister on Neocolonialism, African Economies

MB191818 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, has said guerillas were forcing many African countries to spend large amounts of their income on arms rather than food. Mr Mnisi was officially opening a week-long Economic Commission for Africa conference of vice-chancellors, rectors, and presidents of institutions of higher learning in Africa at the Royal Swazi Sun Convention Center.

[Begin Mnisi recording] The first phase took the form of colonialism, and the second stage, which is still on, is evidenced by neocolonialism. In the latter case, African countries, unfortunately, are helpless to resist it. The methods of neocolonialism are subtle and varied. They are not only in the political and economic fields, but also in the religious, ideological, and cultural spheres. On the economic front, the great strategy of neocolonialism is to control the world's markets through international capital as well as the pricing of commodities bought and sold throughout the developing world. The net result is the widening gap between the rich nations of the North and the poor nations of the South. For example, between 1951 and 1961, the general level of prices for primary products fell by 33.1 percent, while prices of manufactured goods rose by only 3.5 percent. This situation is further dramatized by the fact that even when the volume of exports from the South may rise, their earning in foreign exchange continues to decrease.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, it is up to us to look into the internal factors affecting African economies. It is a familiar statement in most African countries that agriculture is the pivot of Africa's economy. That is what we say, we politicians. Unfortunately, this realization has not often been matched with the required action. For far too long we have behaved as if food production will

automatically occur irrespective of the input. At the same time, the demands for foreign exchange forced on us by the unfair international trade pattern makes many African countries concentrate on cash crops to feed the manufacturing industries of the advanced countries. It is in this situation that most African countries have been caught in drought, soil erosion, and desertification. These problems can only be overcome by the use of technology which is woefully lacking, not to mention the capital that will be needed in the process. It may be mentioned here that the problem posed by drought does not only affect agricultural production. It also affects hydroelectric power production, as evidenced in a number of West African countries last year. Thus energy for some agricultural processing also becomes limited. [end recording]

RSA Trade Mission Head Comments on Investment
MB201932 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The head of the South African Trade Mission in the country, Mr J.M. Sterban, says South Africa will do all in its power to encourage her business community to invest in the country. In an interview, he told Swaziland Broadcasting Service at his office in Mbabane today that South Africa was prepared to assist in any way possible the country's stable economic growth and halt investors' exodus to greener pastures in other countries, including South Africa.

Mr Sterban said Pretoria was ready to assist the Kingdom in rebuilding its infrastructure destroyed by Cyclone Domoina and in other development projects once the government makes formal requests for such help. He indicated that his government was already studying other requests formally channeled to South Africa by our country for aid in various fields. However, Mr Sterban approved the good relationship existing between the two countries and expressed confidence that it would be further strengthtened in the years to come.

ZAMBIA

Paper Asks USSR To Replace U.S. in Namibia Talks
MB201608 Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 10 Feb 85 p 1

[Editorial comment]

[Text] American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker is back sun-bathing in sunny Africa.

How else can one best describe his many visits to Southern Africa? He shuttles under the guise of helping to solve the Namibian independence stalemate, but gaining nothing in the process to give hope to the struggling Namibians.

Dr Crocker knows fully well that the key to the solution of the problem lies with South Africa complying with the United Nations Resolution 435.

Furthermore, it is not new to him that South Africa's neighbours, Angola and Mozambique, are genuinely for peace in the area and want Namibia to be free with minimum delay so that peace is enhanced even further.

The stubborn mule in the area is the South African government which continues to forsake all the peace initiatives and overtures by the leaders of the two states and their counterparts in the region.

Dr Crocker knows all this to be happening, but he keeps coming "to negoiate a settlement to the Namibian independence". What a farce!

The Southern African region is tired and bored stiff of the American government's show of double-face. President Kaunda and the other leaders in the region have told President Reagan many times to be honest in the handling of the Namibian independence.

It is a great pity that despite all the efforts made, Mr Reagan continues playing games. He sends Dr Crocker at intervals, to be seen to be doing something when in fact he would be doing nothing.

We would have wished to see the scenario change: to have the Soviet Union replacing the American negotiators. In such eventuality Africa would be saved the agony of watching as Crocker continues his sun-bathing stint while the liberation war in Namibia rages on.

ZIMBABWE

Banana Addresses Diplomats New Year Reception
MB151828 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, says the only solution to the evils of conflict and confrontation that plague the world today is (?serious) negotiation. Speaking at the diplomats' new year reception at State House in Harare today, Comrade Banana said efforts to build a new international economic order can only succeed through meaningful dialogue. He said money being spent on nuclear and other weaponry could be used to alleviate global misery leading to a more equitable distribution of wealth. Comrade Banana said real progress can be achieved by observing the principles of mutual respect, a willingness to talk openly, [passage indistinct].

Turning to the situation in southern African, Comrade Banana said armed struggle remains the solution to the independence of Namibia as all negotiations with the Pretoria regime have proved futile. He reiterated Zimbabwe's support for the just struggle of the people of the SDAR and the Palestinians, through the leadership of Comrade Yasir 'Arafat. Comrade Banana condemned external forces for what he called a dangerous situation in Chad, saying these forces were behind the problems that beset the 19th summit of the OAU.

Criticizes RSA

MB160717 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, says the Pretoria regime has proved beyond doubt that it does not want a peaceful settlement to the problems in South Africa, Namibia, and the whole subcontinent.

He told the diplomats' New Year reception at State House yesterday that there can be no meaningful dialogue in cases where one party considers itself superior to the other.

Comrade Banana pointed to the recent cosmetic changes in the South African constitution as a typical result of the one-sided communication being employed by the racist regime. He said Pretoria's refusal to accede to the legitimate demands of the Namibian people for independence is also a case in point. The president said no amount of negotiation or communication can hope to succeed in such circumstances, adding that the armed struggle remains the only solution open to those seeking freedom.

He said Zimbabwe continues to support the SADR in its fight against expansionist Morocco. Zimbabwe also continues to support liberation movements in southern Africa and the Middle East, and fully subscribes to the ideals of the OAU. Comrade Banana also spoke on the situation in Chad, where he deplored foreign interference.

He also expressed the hope that the renewed talks on nuclear arms control between the superpowers would succeed. He urged the United States and the Soviet Union to be more serious in their discussions.

Minister Says Election To Be 'Free,' 'Fair'

MB201826 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, has assured the public that foolproof measures are being taken to ensure that the forthcoming election is free and fair.

In an interview with ZIANA, Comrade Mubako said there will be complete secrecy of the ballot, and there is absolutely no way that the elections could be rigged. He pointed out that measures have been taken to guarantee that no one will be molested or forced to vote for any political party.

Government Rejects Release of ZAPU Officers

MB151622 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1427 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Harare, Feb 15, SAPA — The Zimbabwe Government has rejected a recommendation by the detention review tribunal that two senior military men in the ZAPU movement be freed.

A notice in today's issue of the Government *GAZETTE* said President Canaan Banana had recommended that the minister "shall not act in accordance with the review tribunals recommendation that the detainees Chaka Moyo and Nicholas Nkomo be released."

The two men, both commanders in the ZIPRA army during the guerrilla war, were arrested in early 1982.

ZAPU Blamed for Death of ZANU-PF Official

MB180638 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] ZAPU supported dissidents have murdered another official of the ruling ZANU-PF Party. Announcing this at a meeting of Matabeleland South chiefs, councillors, and headmen in Gwanda yesterday, the minister of mines, Comrade Callistus Ndlovu, said the dissidents murdered the ZANU-PF political commissar for Kezi District, Comrade Walter Ncube, last Monday. Deploring the murder, Comrade Ndlovu said although the government does not want to use force to protect poor people, it might be compelled to do so.

Addressing the same meeting, the minister of national supplies, Comrade Enos Nkala, said the murder of Comrade Ncube is another example of ZAPU's determination to eliminate ZANU-PF supporters.

Briefs

New UK Envoy Arrives — The acting British high commissioner, Mr Roger Martins, said Zimbawe's first peasant farming community has become the success story of Africa, and Britain is delighted to be associated with other sectors, like the improvement of roads, which contribute to agricultural development. In the meantime, the new British high commissioner to Zimbawe, Mr Ramsey Melhuish, arrived in Harare on Wednesday to take up his post following his appointment last month. [Excerpt] [*Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Feb 85 MB*]